

# The ARChive

APRIL 2024

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**Church of the Holy Apostles**  
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[www.holyapostlesvb.org](http://www.holyapostlesvb.org)



**Catholic Diocese of Richmond**  
[www.richmonddiocese.org](http://www.richmonddiocese.org)  
**Episcopal Diocese of So. Virginia**  
[www.diosova.org](http://www.diosova.org)

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## Sunday Worship

10:30 am

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3rd Tuesday of the month.



## A Message from Deacon Gary

Dear Holy Apostles' friends,

With all the activity in the month of March - two large funerals, Holy Week and the impending departure of Father Mario - our normal Easter letter got lost in the shuffle, so please consider this column to be that letter.

What joy comes as we celebrate our incredible God - a God who loves us more than we could ever imagine. And when discussing the miraculous resurrection from the dead, words cannot capture the significant this act leaves us with. There is life after death. Jesus, the Son of God, proved it, he experienced it. What joy and hope we feel as a result.

From the earliest days of Christianity, the resurrection of Jesus was the one, simple, profound experience that served as the totality of the Christian message - it was the Good News! However, the "meaning" of the death and resurrection of Jesus had yet been able to be understood, or to be brought into focus.

Now, after two thousand years, the countless faithful, have been trying to wrap their heads and hearts around this great mystery, in the hopes of trying to understand more clearly what it meant back then and what it means for us today. And so we can say all sorts of things about Easter that would have been impossible for those first believers to say, because we have been contemplating it, wondering about it, praying about it, and puzzling over it, since that first Easter morning.

And so we all can say that today we are "saved" - because we have been rescued from the darkness of sin and darkness. Easter can be seen as our day of redemption - in a way,

Message continues on page 12

**We choose love over division, unity over separation and Christ above all things.**

<b>April</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>WORSHIP COORDINATOR</b>	N. Ragland	N. Ragland	N. Ragland	N. Ragland
<b>GREETER</b>	P. Rispoli	P. Rispoli	P. Rispoli	P. Rispoli
<b>LECTOR</b>	N. Ragland	J. Lucas	B. Radford	P. Russo
<b>READER</b>	J. Blessing	A. Whyte	A. Delaney	J. Tucker
<b>CATHOLIC EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	J. Flowers (W)	L. Startt (W)	P. Salisbury (W)	K. Ashby (W)
<b>EPISCOPAL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	B. Radford (W) J. Tucker (B)	B. Startt (W) W. McDaniel (B)	N. Ragland (W) C. Mills (B)	A. Cherwa (W) B. Radford (B)
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	B. McDaniel	B. Hormuth	B. McDaniel	B. Hormuth
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	K. Lowe	L. Startt	K. Lowe	H. Frey
<b>COUNTERS</b>	L. Pace / S. Stanley	L. Startt / K. Meek	G. Leighton/ M. Mills	M. Cherwa / P. Russo



<b>May</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>WORSHIP COORDINATOR</b>	A. Whyte	A. Whyte	A. Whyte	A. Whyte
<b>GREETER</b>	J. Flowers	J. Flowers	J. Flowers	J. Flowers
<b>LECTOR</b>	L. Carpenter	A. Whyte	L. Startt	B. Radford
<b>READER</b>	C. Mills	P. Salisbury	B. Startt	J. Mancuso
<b>CATHOLIC EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	M. Mills (W)	M. Meehan (W)	J. Blessing (W)	A. Martin (W)
<b>EPISCOPAL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	A. White (B) J. Tucker (W)	B. Radford (B) A. Cherwa (W)	N. Ragland (B) C. Mills (W)	B. McDaniel (B) B. Startt (W)
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	B. McDaniel	K. Saunders	B. Hormuth	B. McDaniel
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	K. Lowe	L. Startt	K. Lowe	H. Frey
<b>COUNTERS</b>	L. Pace / S. Stanley	M. Cherwa / M. Mills	L. Startt / K. Meek	K. Nichter / M. Meehan



## March Birthdays



Grace Leighton	4
Kate Ashby	6
John Delaney	7
Alice Hale	7
Amanda Stanley	10
Sue Delaney	14
Stephen Vandenhoff	14
Brown Carpenter	16
Peter Van Heest	20
Terry Salisbury	24
Madison Stanley	26
Samantha Aguilar	29
Jay Stanley	29

Pete & Barbara Van Heest  
**April 13, 1960**

Dona and Tim Mitchell  
**April 16, 1971**

Kevin and Jennifer Saunders  
**April 16, 2006**

We will be celebrating birthdays on Sunday, April 7th. We invite you to join us in the Fellowship Hall after the service for cake.

### Prayer for a Birthday

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Mark Your Calendars

- Mon. April 1** Sacred Waters Study by JustFaith begins | 2:00-4:00 pm  
Office is closed
- Wed. April 3** Executive Committee Meeting | 5:40 pm
- Sun. April 7** First Sunday of Easter  
Liturgy begins at 10:30 am
- Mon. April 8** Sacred Waters Study | 2:00-4:00 pm
- Tues. April 9** Finance Committee Meeting | 5:00 pm
- Wed. April 10** Liturgy Committee Meeting | 11:00 am
- Thurs. April 11** Vestry Council Meeting | 6:30 pm
- Fri. April 12** Crafting Fellowship | All day from 9:00 am
- Sat. April 13** Crafting Fellowship | All day from 9:00 am
- Sun. April 14** Second Sunday of Easter  
Liturgy begins at 10:30 am
- Mon. April 15** Sacred Waters Study | 2:00-4:00 pm
- Sun. April 21** Third Sunday of Easter | Liturgy begins at 10:30 am  
Social Committee Meeting | 9:30 am
- Mon. April 22** Sacred Waters Study | 2:00-4:00 pm
- Tues. April 16** ARCHive information due to  
[holyapostlesarchive@gmail.com](mailto:holyapostlesarchive@gmail.com)
- Fri. April 26** Shabbat Service | 7:30 pm
- Sun. April 28** Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Liturgy begins at 10:30 am
- Mon. April 29** Sacred Waters Study | 2:00-4:00 pm

**Every Week:**

**Tuesdays at 10 am**  
Bible Study

**2nd and 4th Wednesday**  
Utilities Assistance  
1-3 pm

**Thursdays**  
PLARN  
9 - 11am







## *Highlights from Vestry Council Meeting*

### **Financial Update: March 2024**

YTD Income: \$ 30,453.98

February Income: \$ 13,415.20

YTD Expenses: \$ 41,188.04

February Expenses: \$ 21,630.30

YTD Excess: \$ -10,734.06

February Net Income: \$ - 8,215.10

### **March 14, 2024**

- Finance Council Report's Summary: Balance Sheet showed below average income for February, while at the same time expenses were high due to the Communication Project and the purchase of a new refrigerator. Money had been saved up for each of these projects and both had grants to help off-set costs.
- Fr. Mario gave a summary of the February's Annual Diocesan meeting he attended in Williamsburg.
- Deacon Gary continues to visit those parishioners who are homebound and/or in the hospital.
- Spring landscaping includes shrub removal and fire ants treatments.
- Easter is the last Sunday of the month, there will not be a gathering at Manga Qui in March.
- Liturgy committee has Holy Week and Easter liturgies scheduled.
- Christian Formation for adults and children continues. Starting April 1st CHA is offering and hosting a JustFaith Ministry study group.
- Social Ministry continues to distribute money to those in need through the Discretionary Fund.
- Next month Earth Day, Tidewater Sowers of Justice subgroup, Environmental Working Group, plans to celebrate with other churches April 20-21. A display will be set up at Holy Apostles.
- There is a new Discernment Process for finding of a new Episcopal co-pastor. The Senior Warden is assembling committee members. Their job will be to find a replacement for Fr. Mario.
- The Senior Warden is lining up several supply priests for April.



## Discernment Committee: Our 2024 Search



We have had many people offer to be on the search committee, so I thought I should give you all an overview of the new option we have opted to follow for the search process. The new Discernment Process differs from our previous processes. 3 people from each denomination will be on the team. The team members are: Bonnie Startt, Steve Stanley, Holly Frey, Barbara Kimpan, Ellen Murphy, and Cliff Hatt.

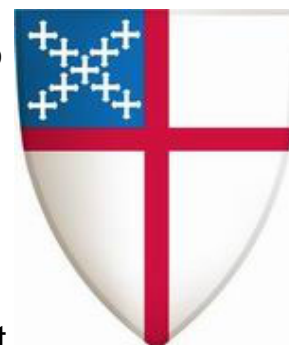
After Father Mario leaves, on April 1, the Diocese will send us a form to fill out with an overview of Holy Apostles, our needs, and a description of the position. That must be returned to the Diocese by May 1. Once that has been completed and reviewed, the job description will be posted online. As I am sure you remember, one of the reasons the last search took as long as it did was that we were only considering a male priest. We have decided that this time we will be open to women as well as that greatly increases the pool of candidates, and that should ensure the process does not take as long. Once the process is in place, we are able to hold interviews as soon as we see someone who looks to fit our needs. We do not have to wait and interview all parties at the same time.

The new process came about during the Covid closures and has been very successful for the churches who have opted for this revised process. In that last process we had an Interim priest assigned to us for 30 months. Most of these churches have filled their positions in substantially less time than that 6-12 months. Under the new process, we will fill the position with individual supply priests until such time as we call a Priest in Charge.

The person we call will be named Priest in Charge and will be assigned here for a 3-year term. During that time, we will look to see how things are working out before offering a permanent position. We may do that as soon as one year. Either party may end the contract during the first year with no reason given.

We are excited to try out this new process and ask you all keep us in your prayers as we begin this new stage in our life here at the Church of the Holy Apostles.

Bonnie Startt



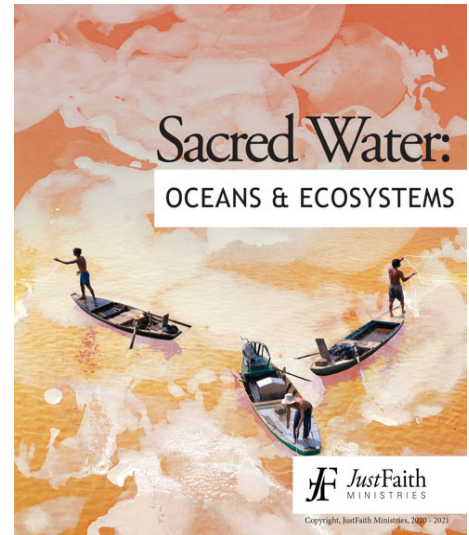


## JustFaith Series Small Group Study

### *Sacred Water: Oceans and Ecosystems*

**Mondays | April 1 – May 20 | 2:00 – 4:00 pm**

Water is central both to our Christian theology and to our survival. *Sacred Water: Oceans and Ecosystems* guides small groups in discerning how they can better care for the earth's waters, as well as the creatures and communities who live in and around them.



Starting April 1st, JustFaith group will be offering Sacred Water: Oceans and Ecosystems study program. The study is open to members from Holy Apostles and other area churches. Please see Whitney McDaniel for signup.

## Let's Craft!

### Crafting Fellowship on April 12 and 13

Everyone is welcome to join our Crafting Fellowship days on **Friday, April 12 and Saturday, April 13**. The hours will be from 9 am till the last person. Please join any time with any craft. For questions please **contact Anna Crosby at (757) 434-8044**.



## Congratulations to Rabbi Zoberman!

The General Assembly of Virginia State commended Rabbi Israel Zoberman on the occasion of his 50th Anniversary in the Rabbinic ministry.





The **Interfaith Alliance at the Beach** in partnership with the Virginia Beach Department of Human Services is seeking volunteers who are willing to invest their time and social capital to help individuals who are experiencing poverty.

After completing five weeks of training, volunteers commit to serve on a Table \*with four or five other volunteers for one year.

Spring training will be provided from **April 18th - May 23rd** at **The Gathering at Scott Memorial Methodist Church, 409 First Colonial Rd.**

Register to volunteer by scanning the QR code or visit <https://www.volgistics.com/od/5915/assignment/1713/profile>



\*<https://www.theopentable.org>

Questions: 757-477-6884

## ONLINE GIVING

Our church offers Online Giving as an additional option to support our ongoing mission and ministries. Our church is a spiritual home for all of us which relies on our time, talent, and treasure to fulfill that mission.



Click on the [link](#) to sign-up

Join us or donate to expand mental health services to those who would not otherwise have access!



TWO TEAMS, ONE GREAT CAUSE — TO SUPPORT CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH!



MAY 3RD, 2024  
HERON RIDGE GOLF CLUB, VIRGINIA BEACH

[www.birdease.com/catholiccupgolftournament](http://www.birdease.com/catholiccupgolftournament)

Presented by  
WALL  
EINHORN &  
CHERNITZER  
CPAs & ADVISORS





Our **Manna Closet/Food Pantry** is in need of several items. The next time you are at the store, please consider purchasing a few of the following item and donating them. Your generosity is appreciated.

- Cereal
- Canned meats
- Jam & Jelly
- Mac & Cheese
- Fruit cups
- Granola & Cereal bars
- Ketchup & Mustard
- Spices



Please no canned vegetables and beans at this time.

Monetary donations are also accepted. (Please note manna closet on the check.)

*Thank you for your kindness and generosity.*

## PLARN

Every Thursday 9:00 am to 11:00 am at CHA

*Join PLARN for conversation and laughter while making a difference*

Our PLARN group has given  
People in Need (PiN)  
50 **crocheted mats** for the homeless.

We are asking for donations  
of plastic grocery bags.  
Please leave bags on the nursery table





Jesus “paid the price” to restore our rightful relationship with the Father. Easter is the day to accept God’s forgiveness, and let go once and for all the burdens we have been carrying around.

We are able to see today as a day of overwhelming hope, a realizing of a possibility of life with God for all eternity. And we are able to see today that God keeps his promises, He shows us a kind of profound faithfulness we all aspire to - but so often fall short of.

On Easter, we are able to see a re-creation - a re-establishment of the Garden we once occupied. In what ways are we contributing to the world, making it a better place, being more like the world God first created? Easter is the day to see God’s creation as being beautiful and worthy of our care. Easter is the day to be sincerely grateful for the blessings we are aware of and the blessings known to God alone. And we are able to see Easter as clear evidence that love always wins – that God always wins. Easter is the day to always choose to love - no matter how difficult.

All of these things show us the incredible power of Easter, a power unleashed on the world through the saving act of one man, one God, one divine person willing to go where we are so often unwilling to go. He followed a path we so often try to avoid. He remained faithful - even in the face of great suffering - rather than choosing an easier way. He refused to become someone he wasn’t, He refused to become anything but his truest self. And He showed us completely and for all time what love can achieve - a love that has no conditions, a love that doesn’t count the cost.

**Alleluia! Jesus has risen. Happy Easter!**

Deacon Gary



### Vestry Council Liaisons

**Administration:** Anna Crosby & David Dickerson  
**Christian Formation:** Holly Frey & Bonnie Startt  
**Fellowship:** Bonnie Startt & Richard Giffin  
**Liturgy:** Ellen Murthy & Jane Tucker  
**Social Ministry:** Barbara Kimpan & Steve Stanley  
**Finance:** Executive Council

### Committee Co-Chairs

**Administration:** Brent McDaniel & Kevin Meek  
**Christian Formation:** Kay Ashby & W. McDaniel  
**Children’s Chapel:** Jackie Lucas  
**Bible Study:** Ann Delaney & Barbera Radford  
**Fellowship:** Gail & Ray Orland and Dona Mitchell  
**Liturgy:** Nicki Felton & Lee Startt  
**Social Ministry:** Kim & Nick Nichter  
**Christian Unity:** Charlie Mills & Open  
**Finance Council:** Grace Leighton, Lynn Pace, Phil Russo  
**Stewardship:** Mike Cherwa & Ellen Murthy  
**Safe Church:** Bonnie Startt & Deacon Gary

# Church of the Holy Apostles Annual Goals and Objectives 2023-2024

## **Goal 1: Be the active ecumenical leader and partner in our local community.**

Look for at least two new opportunities to participate in and host ecumenical gatherings for shared formation (i.e.: JustFaith), worship, and prayer. Gather with as many neighboring churches as possible to participate in each event.

## **Goal 2: Share who we are and why we love Holy Apostles by increasing internal communications to parishioners and visitors and sharing external communications with the community.**

Beginning in February, designate the first Sunday of each month as "Invite a Friend" day where parishioners invite friends, neighbors and/or family to attend a Sunday service.

Share a 'Holy Apostles Good News' story written by our Vestry Council and other parishioners on a monthly basis with our community.

Create a Holy Highlights ministry to feature parishioners and their stories.

Refine and implement the welcome/greeter ministry to be wholly in place by February.

Revitalize the newcomer ministry program to be wholly in place by April.

Work toward building safety and accessibility improvements with a plan in place by July.

Create an ad-hoc committee in February to reactivate a healing ministry.

Offer a monthly Caregiver Support Group to the community at large to provide emotional support, reduce social isolation, and be a source of additional resources.

Create a parishioner survey to present at the annual meeting in September.

Publicize Holy Apostles events and news via Constant Contact, the ARChive, and new and existing media outlets whenever possible.

## **Goal 3: Seek available grant money for community assistance, safety doors, and other needs to promote a healthy treasury and community.**

Document existing grant programs used for community assistance

Seek at least two new programs connected to social justice, community health, safety, and accessibility.

## **Goal 4: Increase parishioner participation in stewardship activities.**

Grow the Stewardship committee from one member to at least two members by March to promote time, talent, and treasure stewardship at Holy Apostles throughout the year.