

Church of the Holy Apostles
1593 Lynnhaven Pkwy
Virginia Beach, VA 23453-2008
www.holyapostlesvb.org



Catholic Diocese of Richmond
www.richmonddiocese.org
Episcopal Diocese of So. Virginia
www.diosiva.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Clergy Message</i>	1
<i>Volunteer Schedule</i>	2
<i>Vestry Council</i>	3
<i>Celebrations</i>	4
<i>Ecumenism</i>	6
<i>Membership Outreach</i>	7-8

Official Monthly Publication of
Church of the Holy Apostles

Publisher: Julia Hatcher
hatcherjmwr@yahoo.com

Contact
admin@holypostlesvb.org
Phone: 757-427-0963

Deadline for submission is the
3rd Tuesday of the month.



A Message from Fr. Mario

My sisters and brothers in Christ,

It is a joy and blessing to be back with you in person and continue our mutual journey as disciples of Christ. Since my official return to ministry, I have been slowly readjusting to the movement and rhythm of the opportunities and challenges in the life of Holy Apostles. Once again, I thank you for all the prayers, cards, and so many other signs of love that you have given to my beloved Catherine and yours truly over the last few months.

I was reminded every day during my short-term disability that as Christians, we cannot forget that our lives and well-being are interconnected in part by human relationships. Relationships with people we know, strangers, and at times folks that we prefer. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer once wrote while he was suffering every day at a Nazi concentration camp: In normal life one is not at all aware that we always receive infinitely more than we give, and that gratitude is what enriches life. One easily overestimates the importance of one's own acts and deeds, compared with who we become only through other people.

How are we to continue being part of what Presiding Bishop Michael Curry of the Episcopal Church calls the Jesus Movement in our new pandemic/post-pandemic reality? I don't have all the answers, but I genuinely believe that we must continue to pray. We must continue to receive the blessed sacrament. I also invite you to take some time to reflect on our common commitment to, and understanding of, God's holistic and integral mission per the Anglican Communion Five Marks of Mission:

- 1) To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.
- 2) To teach, baptize and nurture new believers.
- 3) To respond to human need by loving service.
- 4) To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation.
- 5) To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

I encourage you to be part of our 2021 Shoe Drive for the farmworkers on the Eastern Shore and South Hill. We are again looking for waterproof shoes, boots and socks, and toiletry items that these workers desperately need. In addition, we are also looking for personal care items for men, women, and children; these families would very much appreciate these. Please contact Barbara Byrd or call the office for more details.

I end this letter with the words of Mother Teresa shared by Barbara. We must remember that: "It is not the magnitude of our actions but the amount of Love that is put into them that matters."

Que Dios los bendiga/May God bless you!

Fr. Mario+

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



Liturgy Volunteers

JUNE	6	13	20	27
LECTOR	B Byrd	B Startt	J Blessing	C Mills
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	Dc. Gary	A Cherwa	Dc. Gary	J Tucker
ALTAR GUILD	Nichter & Lowe	Startt	S Delaney	Frey
COUNTERS	P Russo & K Meeks	L Startt & M Cherwa	L Pace & G Leighton	K Nichter & M Meehan



Whoever you are and wherever you are in your spiritual and personal life, we welcome you to the Ecumenical Community of Holy Apostles.

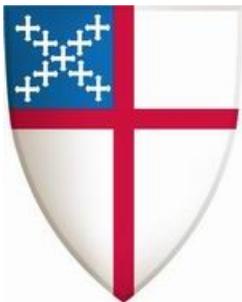
Our Mission

Remembering that we, as a unique community of Episcopalians and Roman Catholics, are entrusted with a vision of God's action in His people, we declare that we have been called to a new venture in the history of the Church.

As the Church of the Holy Apostles, we are called to be a living sign of the Church's efforts toward organic unity, and to promote ecumenical ventures among Christian bodies. We are called to share the gifts of ministry with one another, and to be channels of God's love in the world by involving ourselves with all others.

As apostles, we commit ourselves to build community by discovering our wants and needs and those of others through calling members to share their gifts freely and to grow; by nurturing in faith and tradition; by celebrating renewed life together in worship and fellowship.

We commit ourselves to spread the Good News of our life in Jesus Christ, who calls us into oneness.



**Sunday Mass or Holy Eucharist
10 a.m.
Attend in person
or watch on Facebook Live**

Altar Flower Donations

Altar flower donations are needed for June 13, 20, & 27.

Fresh flowers add immensely to our worship service. Celebrate a special birthday, wedding anniversary, or dedicate flowers in honor or memory of a loved one.

To donate flowers, complete a flower form or call the office and donate \$45.





Highlights from Vestry Council May 18th

Financial Update: April 2021

YTD Income:	\$ 100,674.95
YTD Expense:	\$ 79,711.09
YTD Excess:	\$ 20,963.86
April Income:	\$ 21,021.59
March Expenses:	\$ 22,189.78
Net Income:	\$ -1,168.19

- April's expenses were greater than the income. We remain in the black for the year because of the legacy gift given from Anita Watson's estate. Utility and rent assistance, as well as food distribution from the Manna Pantry has been down, likely because of the stimulus money. Once that program ends in the summer, we anticipate more people will need our assistance.
- An approval has been given for the purchase of a new HVAC unit (which supports the office area) not to exceed \$ 8,000.
- A \$5,000 grant has been requested from the Richmond Diocese for installation of handicap doors for our front entrance (which is about half of the total cost).
- Deacon Gary will be on retreat May 26th through the 29th.
- Bishop Susan has released new guidelines for social distancing and mask wearing. Fully vaccinated parishioners can relax mask mandates and social distance at gatherings, but it is up to local parish on how they implement the new guidance. Currently the Richmond Diocese has not issued new guidelines but are expected to do so soon.
- It is anticipated we will hear who our new Catholic Chaplain is in June (start date in July).
- The Twin Canals community is hosting a prayer walk on Thursday and HA has been asked to participate, more details to follow.
- Mary Thomas will assist with the library and an item will be included in the ARChive asking for additional assistance.
- The date selected for our 44th Anniversary Social with Evening Prayer will be October 31, social tfrom 3 pm to 4 pm with Evening Prayer to follow. Father Mario will follow up with Fr. Thomas Haynes and Deacon Gary will follow up with Msgr. Joe Lehman.
- The office HVAC system will be replaced.

New Roman Catholic Chaplain appointed

Welcome Msgr. Raphael Peprah

We are pleased to announce that our new Roman Catholic Chaplain will be Msgr. Raphael Peprah, Pastor of St. Luke in Virginia Beach. Msgr. Raphael's first Sunday at Holy Apostles will be July 18. We look forward to re-establishing our "one worship service/two liturgies" format at that time.

COVID-19 Restrictions Lifted May 28

We understand that lifting of restrictions is exciting but can also be stressful. As we move closer to normal, we will be attentive to the needs, comfort-level, and well-being of our Holy Apostles community. The Livestream worship on our Facebook page will continue for those at home.

Masks are no longer required for those who are fully vaccinated, but you may wear one if you prefer. Masks are required for children under age 12 and those not fully vaccinated. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. We want to make certain that we are meeting the spiritual, health, and safety needs of each member of our Holy Apostles community as we move a little closer to normal.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Erwin Thomas	3	Lynne Larson	17
Hank Foiles	10	E. Vandenhoff	20
N. Kimpan	10	Charles Mills	21
Mary Noyes	10	Whitney McDaniel	22
Fran Dixon	14	Brian Hormuth	28

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*

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES



Mr. and Mrs. Larry Lowe June 2, 1984	Mr. and Mrs. Ray Orland June 17, 1989
Mr. and Mrs. James Byrd June 4, 1971	Mr. and Mrs. Lee Startt June 21, 1975
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Stanley June 10, 1978	Dr. and Mrs. Colin Hamilton June 25, 1966
Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Thomas June 13, 1970	Mr. and Mrs. Brian Hormuth June 26, 1993

Prayer for a wedding anniversary: We join these couples in their joy and gratitude for the blessings they are to each other. God set them among us as a sign of his love and perseverance; they have endured life's ups and downs yet remain committed. We give thanks for the favors you have bestowed upon them. May God keep them ever in love with each other. *Amen*.

In our Prayers

Pray for the sick, for inpatient children at CHKD,

Pray for everyone affected by COVID-19.

Pray for those suffering job losses, those feeling isolated and frightened.

Pray for health care workers, especially Catherine Meléndez, Andrea Whyte, Kelly Hormuth,

Katy Fabila and Carmen Perez

If you want to place someone on the prayer list, please notify the office.

Individual prayers are published weekly on Thursday by email.



2020-2021 Vestry Council

Focus on Ecumenism and Membership/Outreach

Jackie Lucas (RC 2022) - President

Whitney McDaniel (E 2023) - Warden

Kay Ashby (RC 2021)

Mike Cherwa (RC 2022)

Joann Mancuso (RC 2023)

Carolyn Ferguson (E 2021)

Andrea Whyte (E) 2022)

Charlie Mills (E 2023)

Kim Nichter (E 2021)

Matthew Wood (RC 2023)

Secretary - Julia Hatcher

Clergy - Fr. Mario Meléndez and Deacon Gary Harmeyer

Committee Liaisons

Administration: Andrea Whyte (E) and Mike Cherwa (RC)

Christian Formation: Charlie Mills (E) and Kay Ashby (RC)

Fellowship: Kim Nichter (E) and Jackie Lucas (RC)

Liturgy: Matthew Wood (RC) and Carolyn Ferguson (E)

Social Ministry: Joann Mancuso (RC) and Whitney McDaniel (E)

Committee Co-chairs

Administration: Brent McDaniel & Jim Byrd

Christian Formation:

Christian Unity: Charlie Mills

Fellowship: Gail Orland & Kim Nichter

Finance Council: Mike Meehan, Grace Leighton, Lynn Pace

Liturgy: Nicki Felton & Lee Startt

Social Ministry: Kim & Nick Nichter

Mark Your Calendars

June 13 Celebration for Mary Noyes' birthday after Worship

June 14-18 1 pm Manna on Call

June 15 ARChive Deadline

June 15 6:30 pm Vestry Council

June 16 2 pm Liturgy Committee

June 20 Father's Day, World Refugee Day

Stay Connected

For pastoral care, please call or email your clergy

Fr. Mario: 706-631-6299 - mpmelend@bu.edu

Deacon Gary: 757-735-2227 - garyharmeyer@gmail.com



Ecumenism

Daily Word from Jean Koch

"[W]e find ourselves facing the neuralgic question: where does that one made so by God take and eat, take and drink? Phrased in the language of negation, if one/half of that one is not welcome to receive at this Eucharistic celebration in this place, how can the other half of that one be welcome, and receive? Do we live faithfully the unity of our marriage, and forego the Eucharist? Or do we divide, go to our respective churches to receive the great sacrament of unity – and in dividing, deny the unity of our marriage?" from "Toward a Language of Faithful Possibilities: Interchurch Families and Receptive Ecumenism" by Ray Temmerman, Issues and Reflections #9, April 2010.

Source: interchurchfamilies.org

Library Assistant

In an effort to educate and understand more about Ecumenism we are organizing and expanding our library. Mary Thomas has graciously agreed to assist with this but she needs help. If you are interested in volunteering to assist Mary organize the church Library please contact Charlie Mills at 757-547-3573.

Interesting websites and resources on Ecumenism

There is so much to know about Ecumenism and this link is very informative. Jean Koch provides quotes from Interchurchfamilies.org to prove different faiths doesn't mean divided.

www.interchurchfamilies.org

ANNUAL GOALS FOR 2020/21

Ecumenism Goal:

To educate current and future members of the Church of the Holy Apostles community about ecumenism, to increase understanding of why ecumenism holds special significance for our community; and to become a more visible ecumenical partner in the community.

Objective 1: Ensure that each member of the community is provided access to ready, updated resources, when needed and as available, to increase their knowledge and understanding of ecumenism.

Responsible Party: Retired librarians (Jean Koch and Mary Thomas); Ecumenical small committee and other community members, Christian Formation, Fellowship, Liturgy, and clergy

Objective 2: Increase visibility of Church of the Holy Apostles as an ecumenical/interfaith community through active representation and participation at ecumenical activities as sponsors/co-sponsors/active participants.

Responsible Party: Ecumenical small committee and other community members, Christian Formation, Fellowship, Liturgy, Social Ministry, and clergy

**If you want to help , volunteer, or learn more about Ecumenism,
please contact Charlie Mills or any member of Vestry Council.**

If you have ideas on how to get our message out, please tell us, by phone, email, text, or even in person .

As they saying goes "It takes a village "



Membership / Outreach

A look at our Membership Goals and how we plan to achieve them:

Membership and Outreach Goal: Continue to communicate Holy Apostles' mission, support our church members, and reach out to military and various groups to expand our Holy Apostles' community.

Objective 1: Ensure external communication outlets such as the website, Facebook, and YouTube receive content updates on a regular basis.

Responsible parties: Administration - Communications; Christian Unity

Action Items:

YouTube Channel – Fr. Mario will continue working on this while we search for someone to help.

Website/Social Media – Recruit volunteers

Create and promote Holy Apostles "elevator-pitch" for all parishioners to share with others when opportunities arise. Get feedback from all committees.

Objective 2: Reach out to HA members during the pandemic by calling, emailing, and/or sending cards and letters on a regular basis.

Responsible parties: Fellowship; Social Ministry; Vestry Council; Clergy

Objective 3: Reach out to local military and other local communities through focused advertising and by increasing participation in community events.

Responsible parties: Vestry Council, Administration – Communications; Social Ministry

Action Items:

Matt to contact military places to find out if we can distribute flyers/brochures at kiosks .

Joanne to contact military and civilian newspapers

Create specialized Holy Apostles flyer/brochure and update current HA trifold.

Look for community events in which we can participate as a faith community.

Build relationships with support groups that serve persons with disabilities, NAMI and Vets House.

Add to Sunday service announcements: 'for those who would like to receive more information about HA, please go to our Website and subscribe.'

Mail flyers to base housing

Boots, Shoes, Socks & Toiletries Needed

The farm workers are now back on the Eastern Shore and South Hill. It is time to start our waterproof shoe and boot drive along with socks and toiletry items that these workers desperately need. Any other personal care items for men, women, and children would also be very much appreciated by these families.

Please bring your donated items to the church during the month of June . There is a table set up in the hallway with bins for you to place your donated items. Thank you for your caring and generous spirit!

"It is not the magnitude of our actions but the amount of Love that is put into them that matters" Mother Teresa

Contact info:

Barbara Byrd

Email bjbyrd1@verizon.net

Phone 757-467-5150

World Refugee Day - June 20, 2021

Join Episcopal Migration Ministry (EMM) for a month of celebration, education, and prayer in honor of World Refugee Day - June 20! EMM will host a virtual prayer vigil for World Refugee Day on Sunday, June 20, 7:00 – 8:00 pm ET. The prayer vigil, broadcast on EMM's Facebook, will offer a time of prayer, reflection, and celebration in honor of refugees worldwide. **Go to [facebook.com/EMMRefugees](https://www.facebook.com/EMMRefugees)**



Membership / Outreach

Hats Sales Support the Discretionary Fund

Holy Apostles ball caps are on sale for only \$25.

Contact Jim Byrd bjbyrd1@verizon.net 757-467-5150



Thank you to our Volunteers

Volunteers are hard at work. They pick up 37 bags of food and milk from Green Run High School at 12 pm on Tuesdays and take them to the Twin Canal Community Center. The kids and/or parents pick up food between 12:30 and 1 pm. Each bag has breakfast, lunch, and dinner for each student for 4 days, plus milk and juice. This is an absolute miracle for many of those families!

Contact Whitney McDaniel for more information: whitmcd@hotmail.com



Loving our neighbors through prayer, partnerships and projects

United In Him has organized a group of churches/organizations/businesses/people who are invested in improving Green Run.

We hold prayer walks on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 5 pm. We meet at the Twin Canal Community Center and then disperse in teams of 2-3. Each team will walk wherever they feel led, praying for the community and engage in conversation with residents with the vision of building relationships and meeting them where they are.

We have shirts that can be ordered for \$17.50 each at www.bonfire.com/twin-canal-prayer-walks/. They are not required but are a great sign of unity for the group.

Vicki Mitchell, Director - United In Him—ph. 757-619-8048— FB: [@unitedinhimvb](https://www.facebook.com/unitedinhimvb)

Utility and Rent Assistance

We provide \$50 once a year for residents of Virginia Beach who need assistance with their water, gas or electric bills and now, \$100 once a year for rent assistance. These funds are provided by the **Discretionary Fund**, grants from Catholic and Episcopal Dioceses and generous donations from members of Holy Apostles. **Your donations to The Discretionary Fund are greatly appreciated.** And many thanks to Nick Nichter for his ministry.

Utility and Rent Assistance is provided the 2nd & 4th Wednesday from 1-3 pm.

Manna Pantry June 14-18

Monetary donations are greatly appreciated. Financial donations are used to purchase fresh foods such as meat, cheese, butter, and Food Lion gift cards. **We are currently fully stocked for non perishable items.**

Make donations to “Manna” through online giving or by check. Thank you for supporting the Manna Program and helping our neighbors in need.