

# ARChive

MAY 2022

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 5

**Church of the Holy Apostles**  
**1593 Lynnhaven Pkwy**  
**Virginia Beach, VA 23453-2008**  
**[www.holyapostlesvb.org](http://www.holyapostlesvb.org)**



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

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## Sunday Worship

**10:30 am**

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



## *A Message from Fr. Mario*

One of my favorite saints is Santa Teresa de Ávila (St. Teresa of Avila). She was born before the Protestant Reformation and died almost 20 years after the closing of the Council of Trent. She would see an age of exploration as well as political, social, and religious upheaval. *Teresa de Cepeda y Ahumada* was born in 1515 in Avila in central Spain. She spent her early years with her family, giving herself to the duties of extended family life. Then, at age 21, against her Father's wishes, she professed vows as a Carmelite at the Spanish Convent of the Incarnation in Avila.

St. Teresa stood on her own two feet, even in the man's world of her time. In an excellent short biography, she is described as "a formidable woman." Her success as an administrator and reformer (she founded 14 monasteries) was partly due to her natural leadership gifts, tenacity in the face of adversity, and sense of humor. Once praying about her many trials and sufferings, she thought she heard God say, **"But this is how I treat my friends."** Teresa replied, **"No wonder you have so few friends."** Her writings on prayer and contemplation are drawn from her experience: powerful, practical, and graceful. Her writings, especially the *Way of Perfection* and *The Interior Castle*, have helped generations of believers. In 1970, the Roman Catholic Church gave her the title she had long held in the popular mind: *Doctor of the Church*. She and St. Catherine of Siena were the first women so honored, joining a famous group including St. Augustine of Hippo and St. Thomas Aquinas.

Why am I talking about Santa Teresa? You may even ask, "Father Mario, that's all good, but really, what can a 16th-century Spanish nun say to us today?" I genuinely believe that her teachings and work are relevant today to both Anglicans and Roman Catholics. Consider the following example, from her work *Interior Castle*: *Considera el alma como si fuera un castillo hecho a partir de un único diamante o de un cristal muy claro en el que hay muchas moradas.* In translation, she describes the soul as a "castle made entirely of diamond or of a very clear crystal, in which there are many rooms." Some are above, some below, some to the sides." She also said that in and in the very center and middle of the castle is "the main dwelling place where the very secret exchanges between God and the soul take place."

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

May	1	8	15	22	29
<b>WORSHIP COORD.</b>	A. Whyte	A. Whyte	A. Whyte	A. Whyte	A. Whyte
<b>GREETER</b>	K. Nichter	K. Nichter	K. Nichter	K. Nichter	K. Nichter
<b>LECTOR</b>	M. Meehan	D. Dickerson	J. Flowers	N. Ragland	J. Hatcher
<b>READER</b>	A. Whyte	P. Russo	C. Mills	N. Kimpan	B. Startt
<b>EPISCOPAL EUCHARISTIC MIN.</b>	C. Mills	A. Cherwa	A. Whyte	D. Dickerson	N. Ragland
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	N Nichter	T Frey	B McDaniel	B. Hormuth	T. Frey
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Nichter	Startt	S Delaney	Frey	Lowe
<b>COUNTERS</b>	L Pace / S Stanley	P Russo / M Mills	L Startt / K Meek	M Cherwa/M Meehan	K Nichter/G Leighton

June	5	12	19	26
<b>WORSHIP COORD.</b>	G Leighton	G Leighton	G Leighton	G Leighton
<b>GREETER</b>	H Felton	H Felton	H Felton	H Felton
<b>LECTOR</b>	C Mills	T Frey	A Whyte	G Leighton
<b>READER</b>	A Delaney	B Kimpan	M Meehan	A Cherwa
<b>EPISCOPAL EUCHARISTIC MIN.</b>	N Felton	B. Startt	D. Dickerson	C. Mills
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	T Frey	W&B McDaniel	T Frey	B Hormuth
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Lowe	Startt	S Delaney	Frey
<b>COUNTERS</b>	L. Pace / S. Stanley	G. Leighton / P. Russo	L. Startt / M. Mills	K. Nichter / K. Meek

## *Appreciation Brunch and Refresher Workshop*

The ministry of Lectors and Readers is vital to our church. Lectors and Readers are chosen and properly trained to read Holy Scripture and in the orthodox church, it is one of the minor orders in preparation for the priesthood. The ministry of the Word requires skill in public reading, knowledge of the principles of liturgy, and an understanding and love of the scriptures.

To show our appreciation, we invite all current and future Lectors and Readers to an **Appreciation Brunch and Refresher Workshop** on Saturday, May 21 or June 18 at 10 a.m. Please sign up on the easel in the hallway.

*Fr. Mario, Deacon Gary, and the Liturgy Committee*



## *Highlights from Vestry Council Meeting*

### Financial Update: March 2022

YTD Income:	\$ 57,206.38
YTD Expenses:	\$ 54,759.64
YTD Excess:	\$ 2,446.74
March Income:	\$ 24,588.74
March Expenses:	\$ 19,626.95
March Net Income:	\$ 4,961.79

### **April 19, 2022**

- Overall income is up at this point in the year however the amount going to our regular operating budget for the month was in arrears by \$2400.
- Charlie Mills will assist with the financial audit that will soon take place.
- The RC compensation planning (what the diocese suggest for employee raises) might be later this year but hopefully the recommendation will be here in May or early June so Finance Council can formulate a recommendation to the VC.
- Deacon Gary thanks all who helped make Holy Week at Holy Apostles a success.
- Fr. Mario gave the invocation at the city council meeting tonight.
- The ad hoc committee looking at the playground area is still looking for members from the congregation. The ad hoc committee looking at the wall behind the ambo is set. At the next VC meeting the committees will report on their progress and timeline.
- Adult Christian Formation will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in May and then break between June and August and will return in September.
- Testing for mold near the vents will take place over the next 2 weeks.
- HA promotional flyers will be mailed out again in the near future. A suggestion was made that in the future, the flyers promote a specific event rather than be general in nature.
- All committee heads should update their goals and wish lists and include dates when items are needed.
- A suggestion was made that when members of HA attend an event as a group, they should wear their burgundy colored shirts, so we stand out.
- Deacon Gary will be on vacation April 20-26.
- The 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary is only 7 months away. We will need volunteers to make it successful.
- A virtual forum on ecumenical advocacy for the advancement of civil and human rights will be held April 25 – 27, 2022 – the Episcopal website has additional information.
- Thomas Melendez's baptism will be on May 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM with Bishop Susan Hayes presiding.

There is a lot of work to be done for the kingdom of Christ, but few people willing to do the work ([Matthew 9:37](#)). Don't be afraid to simply start serving; there is a place for you. As you serve, trust that God will equip you, guide you, and give you joy for the work. Find delight in doing the things He has planned for you ([Ephesians 2:10](#); [Colossians 3:17](#), [23](#)).

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



## *Vestry Council 2021-2022 Annual Goals:*

### **Christian Unity Goal:**

To investigate and develop a cohesive and ecumenically-focused submission to the Synod of Bishops; 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:** Create an ad-hoc committee composed of Holy Apostles parishioners that will provide an official submission to the Synod of Bishops call for input.

Responsible Party: All committees, clergy, parishioners

**Objective 2:** Increase visibility of Church of the Holy Apostles as an ecumenical/interfaith community through active representation, sponsorship, and participation at ecumenical and community activities.

### **Membership and Outreach Goal:**

Continue to communicate Holy Apostles' mission and vision by increasing external exposure of our church to the community through varied media sources and in-person events.

**Objective 1:** Mail advertising flyers to different local communities to increase awareness of Holy Apostles at least once per quarter.

Responsible parties: Administration - Communications; Christian Unity

**Objective 2:** Submit a news article to the Catholic Virginian, Episcopal Diocesan Newsletter, and the Virginia Media family of newspapers at least once per quarter. Identify at least one ecumenical outreach event to be offered for coverage by local TV news outlets.

### **Stewardship/Social Ministry Goal:**

Increase parishioner participation in Stewardship activities at Holy Apostles and optimize the Social Ministry funds to maximize output in supporting community assistance opportunities.

**Objective 1:** Increase level of parishioner participation in at least one Stewardship activity to 75% of active parishioners.

**Objective 2:** Apply for and submit applications to all eligible/available grant opportunities on time.

Optimize the utilization of focused discretionary funds and received grant funding to best support and serve the local community to the maximum extent possible throughout the year.

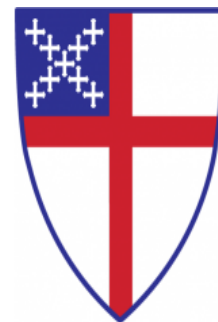


## **Our Mission**



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.



## MAY BIRTHDAYS



Julian Kremer	2
Anna Crosby	3
Anthony Asalone	5
C. Dao	8
Carolyn Ferguson	10
Mary Thomas	10
Teresa Meadows	11
Teresa Stanley	11
Steve Stanley	14
Michael Stover	15

Mary Ward	17
Peter Koch	18
C. Stanley	18
Kevin Meek	23
Tevin Clark	25
Brittney Hormuth	25
Robert Smith	25
Tim Mitchell	26
Michael Meehan	29
Barbara Van Heest	29

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Frey	May 14, 1983
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Russo	May 16, 1987
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Romero	May 27, 1972 (50 years!)



## Mark Your Calendars

May 1	Cake for May birthdays and anniversaries
May 3	<b>Theology on Tap</b>
May 8	<b>Mother's Day</b>
May 9-13	Manna on Call
May 10	Finance Council
May 11	Liturgy Committee meeting
May 14	<i>Thomas Melendez's baptism</i>
May 15	Adult Christian Formation
May 17	ARChive Deadline
	Vestry Council
May 21	<b>Lector/Reader Appreciation Brunch</b>
May 29	No Mangia Qui this month
<b>May 30</b>	<b>Memorial Day-Office Closed</b>
May 31	Bible Study End of the Year Luncheon

### Every Week:

Tuesday	10 am	Bible Study
Tuesday	1 pm	Zumba
Wednesday	7 pm	Zoom Bible Study
Thursday	9 am	PLARN

**Everyone is invited to the baptism of Thomas Meléndez on Saturday, May 14 at 2 p.m. There is a signup sheet on the easel in the hallway.**

**Join us for weekly Bible Study**

**Tuesday morning at 10 a.m.**

**Wednesday evening on Zoom at 7 p.m.** We use the same Zoom link every week. If you forget the link, it is always in the weekly e-news. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9079433273>

**Theology on Tap** is Tuesday, May 3rd at 7 p.m. We will meet at Smartmouth Brewing at the Oceanfront location. It is The VB Pilot House at 313 32<sup>nd</sup> Street. Free parking is in the back lot on 33<sup>rd</sup> Street.





## *Donations, Volunteering and Thanks*

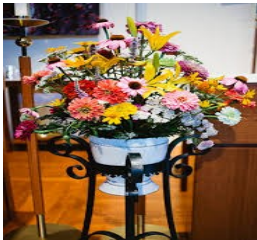
### **ONLINE GIVING - NEW JOURNEY, NEW BEGINNINGS, NEW GOALS.**

Help sustain our church with Online Giving. As we journey through winter and prepare for spring, we remain dedicated to our church's mission. Faithful giving allows Holy Apostles to grow and thrive. Online Giving helps support our church with your donations, payments, and pledges. Set up your account today.



### **Show a Little Love for Holy Apostles**

Have you seen our Administration bulletin board? Take a look at these heart tags. Each tag has a small project that you can do as a gift from you to Holy Apostles. Help us keep our church home in good condition.



#### **Altar Flower Donations**

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.



## *Fellowship*

**Thursday PLARN Group Works Together** - Join the fun from 9 AM - 11AM every Thursday. Plarn is the process of turning grocery bags into yarn. We are going to learn how to crochet the plastic yarn (Plarn) into sleeping mats for homeless kids. Please join us for conversation and laughter while making a difference.



### **Zumba Gold each Tuesday at 1 PM**

Zumba Gold was created for seniors. It's fun, but less intense! Zumba Gold is a modified Zumba class for active older adults. Join instructor Nancy Rojas each Tuesday for one hour of fun and fitness. Only \$5 per class. Participants must be fully vaccinated against COVID.

### **The May Mangia Qui social is cancelled**

due to the Memorial Day holiday weekend.

We will meet again on Sunday, June 26 at 1 PM.





## *Ecumenism*

It is clear that although interchurch families worldwide live in very different situations, they have a common task, a double task: to get the progress which has been made in the pastoral care of interchurch families over the past thirty years written more firmly into the structures and disciplines of the churches; and - still more important - to get the churches to recognize the fact of "double belonging" and to tackle together the ecclesiological questions which it raises "Anglo-French Collaboration." To read more, visit the newsletter at [Interchurchfamilies.org](http://Interchurchfamilies.org)

### *Interchurch Families*

*Bringing Our Churches To Unity Through Love*

#### **Christian Ecumenical Network (CEN)**

Follow CEN on Facebook and join the 122 followers who are helping to promote Christian Unity.

<https://www.facebook.com/CENChristianTidewater/>

CEN's mission is to promote Christian unity, while sharing and strengthening individual traditions and beliefs. We serve as a network, through fellowship, prayer and communication, for education, dialogue, celebrations and ministry.

We offer a feel good message with an emphasis on Ecumenism.



#### **Our Vision**

We share a vision to be a visible sign of Christian Unity. We are:

- ◆ Eucharist centered
- ◆ Intent on mission
- ◆ Involved in shared ministry
  - ◆ Creative in liturgy
- ◆ Expressive to Christian education and formation
  - ◆ Ecumenically optimistic

**If you want to help or learn more about Christian Unity/Ecumenism, please contact Charlie Mills, Jo-Anne Blessing, or any member of Vestry Council.**

### *Embracing Interfaith Cooperation - May 15 @ 9:30 AM*

Our last Adult Christian Formation (ACF) class for this season will be on **Sunday, May 15 at 9:30 AM.**

We will complete our study of **"Embracing Interfaith Cooperation"**. The interfaith commentator Eboo Patel leads the exploration of what it means to be literate about faiths, how interfaith cooperation works and the role we can play.

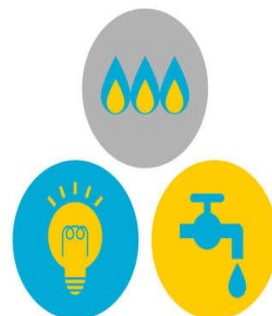


## Membership / Outreach

### 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.



## Shine a Light for Mental Health Awareness



**May is Mental Health Awareness month.**

We have green ribbons and light bulbs to help shine a light on mental health.

See Joann Mancuso or Kay Ashby for more information.

## Fr. Mario's Message Continued from page 1

If this sounds strange to you, you can go to one of my favorite passages from the Gospel of John:

*'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?'*

Santa Teresa lived in "a culture of things heard and seen rather than of things read." In addition, any formal education in Latin was strictly forbidden to women, so when she used scriptural references, it was done from memory. With this in mind, I invite you to join your fellow Christians for Bible Study. We currently have two offerings:

- 1) **10 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study** (in person) at our Fellowship Hall.
- 2) **7 pm Wednesday Evening Bible Study** (virtual) via Zoom.

I am sure that Santa Teresa would have loved to have this opportunity to study the Bible from a written text and in a group including both women AND men. Sometimes we forget how lucky we are when it comes to the study of Holy Scripture in a group setting. *We can follow Jesus' example, directs us in wisdom, creates meaningful connections, provides encouragement, keeps us accountable, and transforms our community.* Therefore, I conclude with the following words by Santa Teresa:

***"Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His people."***

Peace, Padre Mario