

**Lawn First LLC**  
**804-313-5119**  
 Gonzalo Ramirez  
 lawnfirstllc@gmail.com

Ready to join the Knights of Columbus and be part of the world's largest Catholic fraternity and Charitable Organization?

Please contact our Grand Knight Ed Sullivan at (540) 842-3276, Father Gerald, or any of our Knights here at St. Timothy's. We need Catholic men to help us serve our church and community. Please join today.



December 10, 2023

413 St. Timothy Lane, Tappahannock, VA 22560



**St. Timothy Lumen Christi Society Chapter**

Our parish Lumen Christi Society Chapter was created to honor those who have named the parish as a beneficiary with a legacy gift. Take this into mind: Your generosity during your lifetime has enabled your parish to serve the people of God in this community. Continue to be a part of this community by making a bequest in your will. St. Timothy Church is formulating an endowment fund from legacy gifts to perpetuate financial security for our beloved church.

**LULU'S CLEANING SERVICES**

**LOURDES MERALES**  
 Contact me for free estimate  
**804-313-5694**  
 lulus1cleaningservices@gmail.com

**PARISH OFFICE**

**Rev. Gerald F. Musuubire, Pastor**  
 Rectory: (804) 443-2570  
 Email: pastor@sttimothysparish.org

**Carol Deverell, Office Manager**  
 Parish Office: (804) 443-2760, FAX: (804) 443-2022  
 Email: office@sttimothysparish.org

**Mission Statement**  
*We are called to serve as one family, through corporal and spiritual works of mercy.*

**Estado de la misión**  
*Estamos llamados a servir como una sola familia, a través de obras de misericordia corporales y espirituales.*

**Second Sunday of Advent**

12/10/2023  
 Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14  
 Mark 1:1-8



**Third Sunday of Advent**

12/17/2023  
 Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
 John 1:6-8, 19-28



*"And this is what [John] proclaimed: 'One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the holy Spirit.'"*

Mark 1:7-8

**MASS SCHEDULE**

- Saturday 5:00pm (English)
- Sunday 9:30am (English)
- Sunday 12:00pm (Spanish)

**CONFESSIONS**

45 minutes before Mass or by appointment.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Please contact the Parish Office or Rectory to schedule an appointment.



*A warm welcome is extended to new parishioners and guests.*

**Roger R. Sethmann, BMC, MM**  
*Piano Tuning/Repair/Consulting*  
 rsethmann@gmail.com (804) 445-6983



I thought it would be nice to share with you these thoughts on Penance from a St. Timothy's parishioner, Joe Swonk:

### Penance

A while ago, a lady wrote to [*The Catholic Virginian*] that she didn't see the need for all of this bowing and scraping and breast-beating during Mass or words to that effect. I assume she was referring to the penitential rites during the Mass, and that we church goers are not in need of feeling sorry. To have such an attitude is to be unaware of the insidious nature of the power of Original Sin and the way it comes slithering into our lives. Satan as a serpent is aptly named!

But Holy Mother Church is fully aware of Satan's cunning and so provides us with the opportunity to "fess up" in order to receive worthily the Most Holy Eucharist.

She has us begin with "I confess to Almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned." Why "greatly"? In the presence of our God, isn't any sin, even venial, "great"? When the mystical saints such as John of the Cross and the Theresas, through holy devotion, drew closer and closer to a vision of God, did they cry, "I am perfect"? No, instead, they beat their breasts and decried the fact that they were unworthy of God's love. In other words, in relation to God's perfection, they saw themselves as sinners.

Mother Church even gives us a guideline in this prayer in order to adequately recognize and repent of our sins: "... in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do." She hopes by now that we have humbled ourselves sufficiently to be truly sorry and cry, "...through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault."

And then, as if to further remind us, She has us say the invocation, the "Kyrie Eleison." "Lord have mercy...."

And now the Mass reaches the climax of the ritual, Holy Communion. Here the church makes a last attempt to help us realize just how unworthy we are to be in the Living Presence of the Son of God. The priest says: "...behold Him who takes away the sins of the world."

To which we respond, "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof..."

Here, Holy Mother Church asks us to have the same reverence and respect for this great miracle as the saints have. We are about to receive the Living God on our tongues. How could such an event have meaning without our having reached full recognition that we are sinners and, therefore, unworthy?

I am not saying we are saved by "being good." We are saved by Divine Grace, by the mercy of our Creator. But how can we be worthy recipients of that Grace without recognizing that the curse of Original Sin makes us susceptible to self-deception and false pride?

### Parish Ministries

Diana Campbell, Rel. Ed. Director: (804) 238-1279

Roy Fontane, Finance Council Chair: (804) 925-6223

Becky Tobler, Pastoral Council Vice-Chair: (757) 897-4840

Becky Tobler, Human Needs Chair: (757) 897-4840

Kathy Hayden, Safe Environment Chair: (804) 450-4207

Gonzalo Ramirez, Hispanic Ministry: (804) 313-5119

**Hospital Visits:** Call Parish Office or Rectory

**Homebound:** Call Parish Office to schedule Communion

### Offertory Collection December 2 - December 3, 2023

Offertory - \$5,322  
Give Central - \$350  
Candles - \$68  
Christmas Flowers - \$1,263  
Mass Intentions - \$50

**Mass Counts: Saturday 5:00PM - 60,  
Sunday 9:30AM - 120, Sunday 12:00Noon - 83**

**This weekend's second collection will be for Capital Improvements  
The next second collection will be December 25th for Catholic Charities**

## DEL PASTOR

Pensé que sería bueno compartir con ustedes estos pensamientos sobre la Penitencia de un feligrés de St. Timothy, Joe Swonk:

### Penitencia

Hace un tiempo, una señora escribió a [*The Catholic Virginian*] que no veía la necesidad de hacer todas esas reverencias, raspaduras y golpes de pecho durante la misa o palabras en ese sentido. Supongo que se refería a los ritos penitenciales durante la misa y que los asistentes a la iglesia no necesitamos sentir pena. Tener esa actitud es no ser consciente de la naturaleza insidiosa del poder del Pecado Original y la forma en que llega a nuestras vidas. ¡Satanás como serpiente es un nombre apropiado!

Pero la Santa Madre Iglesia es plenamente consciente de la astucia de Satanás y por eso nos brinda la oportunidad de "confesar" para recibir dignamente la Santísima Eucaristía.

Ella nos hace comenzar con "Confieso ante Dios Todopoderoso y ante ustedes, hermanos y hermanas míos, que he pecado gravemente". ¿Por qué "en gran medida"? En presencia de nuestro Dios, ¿no es "grande" cualquier pecado, incluso el venial? Cuando los santos místicos como Juan de la Cruz y Teresa, a través de la santa devoción, se acercaron cada vez más a una visión de Dios, ¿clamaron: "Soy perfecto"? No, en cambio, se golpearon el pecho y denunciaron el hecho de que no eran dignos del amor de Dios. En otra Es decir, en relación con la perfección de Dios, se veían a sí mismos como pecadores.

La Madre Iglesia incluso nos da una guía en esta oración para reconocer y arrepentirnos adecuadamente de nuestros pecados: "...en mis pensamientos y en mis palabras, en lo que he hecho y en lo que no he hecho". Ella espera que a estas alturas nos hayamos humillado lo suficiente como para sentirnos verdaderamente arrepentidos y llorar: "...por mi culpa, por mi culpa, por mi más grave culpa".

Y luego, como para recordarnos aún más, Ella nos hace decir la invocación, el "Kyrie Eleison". "Señor ten piedad..."

Y ahora la Misa llega al clímax del ritual, la Sagrada Comunión. Aquí la iglesia hace un último intento para ayudarnos a darnos cuenta de cuán indignos somos de estar en la Presencia Viva del Hijo de Dios. El sacerdote dice: "...he aquí el que quita el pecado del mundo".

A lo que respondemos: "Señor, no soy digno de que entres bajo mi techo..."

Aquí la Santa Madre Iglesia nos pide que tengamos la misma reverencia y respeto por este gran milagro que tienen los santos. Estamos a punto de recibir al Dios Vivo en nuestra lengua. ¿Cómo podría tener sentido tal acontecimiento sin que hayamos alcanzado el pleno reconocimiento de que somos pecadores y, por tanto, indignos?

No estoy diciendo que somos salvos por "ser buenos". Somos salvos por la Gracia Divina, por la misericordia de nuestro Creador. Pero, ¿cómo podemos ser dignos destinatarios de esa Gracia sin reconocer que la maldición del Pecado Original nos hace susceptibles al autoengaño y al falso orgullo?

Gracias a todos los miembros de San Timoteo que participaron en la bienvenida a los peregrinos que acompañaron las imágenes de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y San Juan Diego el 21 de Noviembre. La comida estuvo buena, el baile fue fantástico y la liturgia fue espiritualmente edificante.



**La segunda colecta de este fin de semana será para Mejoras Captales  
La próxima segunda colecta será el 25 de diciembre para Caridades Católicas**

## JOKE OF THE WEEK

### How much would you give me not to love my big sister?

A pastor was speaking to a Sunday school class about the things money can't buy. "It can't buy laughter and it can't buy love," he told them. Driving his point home, he said, "What would you do if I offered you \$1000 not to love your mother and father?" Stunned silence ensued. Finally, a small voice queried, "How much would you give me not to love my big sister?"



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



### Knights Help St. Timothy's Get Ready for Christmas



Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Knights of Columbus 10578 had a busy day. They erected the Nativity manger on the side of St. Timothy Church. The manger, illuminated by a spotlight at night, is visible to anyone driving down Route 17.

The Knights also placed wreaths at the Essex Cemetery and the Father Dollard Memorial Garden as part of the "Wreaths Across America" tribute to our veterans.

Saturday evening found the Knights relaxing with family at their annual Christmas Party hosted at the Prince Street Café at Hobbs Hole. A good time was had by all.

As part of the Knights "Keep Christ in Christmas" program, the Knights will be selling Christmas cards and religious articles and books after the Masses this month. All profits go to the Knights' charities.

If you would like to learn more about what the Knights do, or are interested in joining us, please contact Ed Sullivan at [desulliva@aol.com](mailto:desulliva@aol.com).

### Please Pray For The Sick

#### For healing and good health:

Lois Nelms, Anne Glancy, Ken Pollack, Dorothy Sponder, Joseph F. Mercurio, Beth Schools, Peggy Shaughnessy, Luke Heller, Theresa Berens, Kelly Liddington, Margaret Bell, Connie and Ed Malloy, Beatrice Howard, Kathie Mendez, Michelle and Anthony Macaluso, Joe Patton, Chloe Fordham, Patricia Brenzovich, Daniel Murchison Lytjen, Amber Davis, Lorraine Jester, Anna Dalton, Charlie Allen, Jerry Simpson, Jr., Robert Davenport, Valarie Roberts, Carolyn White, David Rousseau, Patrick Finn, Rebeca Moreno, Maria Foster, Thomas Hampton, Ed Sullivan, Dan Dean, Catherine Mallory, Linda and David Taylor, Tom Schroeder, James Morris, Susan Lewis, Andrew Mallory, Owen Liddic, Barbara Taylor, John Ciffo, Kevin Sullivan, Lloyd Samuels, Michelle Sadloch, Les Sisson, Jocelyn Boily, Carol Smith, Christopher Carcamo, Christina Brookbank, Janie Kwedar, Charles Palmeri, Lucille Palmeri, Chris Honenberger, Michelle Ward, Rita Nepomuseno Vazques, Michael Herlan, Kristen Kellett, Linda MacDonald, and Pat Doane.



### Mass Intentions

If you would like to have a family member or friend, living or deceased, remembered in a Mass, please call the parish office and schedule a Mass. We will send the family or person (if living) a card with all the details of the date, time and celebrant, and who scheduled the Mass.



### Remember In Your Prayers *All those who serve our country, particularly . . .*

LT Patrick Howlett, USAF; Ensign Jordan Gates, USN; LTC Rod Dwyer, USA; Lesley Clarke, USN; FSO Mary O'Brien; SGT John Streat III, USA; 2nd LT Christopher Selig, USA; Morgan Martin, USN; Ty Brown, USCG

*Pray God keeps them in His care.*

December 12 - December 17 / Mass Intentions/Mass Times				
Date	Mass	For	Liturgical Days	Requested By
12/12	12:00N	†Richard Farrow	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe	Roy Fontane
	7:00PM (Spanish)	†Rita Nepomuceno Vázquez	Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe	Familia de San Timoteo
12/13	12:00N	Salvation of All Souls	Memorial of Saint Lucy	St. Timothy Family
12/14	9:00AM	Souls in Purgatory	Memorial of Saint John of the Cross	St. Timothy Family
12/15	09:00AM	Jeremy Tippet	Weekday	Jordan Tippet
12/16	5:00PM	Patricia Brenzovich	Vigil - Third Sunday of Advent	Joe Brenzovich
12/17	9:30AM	†Nancy Sams	Tercer Domingo de Adviento	Dorothy Paul
	12:00N	Para el Pueblo	Primer Domingo de Adviento	Familia de San Timoteo



**Need a Ride to Mass?**

If you need a ride to ANY Mass, please call the office.

**Upcoming Mass Times**

- December 8th, 12:00N and 7:00PM (bilingual) Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a *Holy Day of Obligation* - **NO 9:00AM Mass**
- December 9th, 12:00N Schaefer - Hanks Wedding
- December 12th, 12:00N and 7:00PM (Spanish) Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- December 15th, 6:00PM Advent Penance Service
- December 24th, 9:30AM and 12:00Noon Sunday Mass
- December 24th, 6:00PM and 8:00PM Vigil - Nativity of Our Lord
- December 25th, 10:00AM Nativity of Our Lord, a *Holy Day of Obligation*
- December 26th - 29th **NO Masses**; there will be Rosary
- January 5th, 9:00AM First Friday
- January 6th, 9:00AM First Saturday

**Holiday Hours**

The office will be closed the week of December 25th, and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd.

**Holy Sacrament of Marriage**

Joshua James Schaefer, son of James Andrew Schaefer and Roseanne Elizabeth Osuch, wishes to marry Alexandra Nicole Hanks, daughter of Dandridge Albert Hanks and Tammy Renee Pfister, on December 9, 2023 at 12:00Noon. We invite you to pray for Josh and Lexi as they begin their life together.

**Give Central Online Giving**

Remember that you have the option at St. Timothy's to sign up and go online to make your weekly donations to the Church. You can get more information by calling the parish office, or go to <https://www.givecentral.org/location/1137/event/25198> and follow the steps. Or you can scan the QR code.



**Pantry Sunday**

Pantry Sunday is this weekend, December 9th - 10th. Donations of canned fruit, vegetables, and soup are *always* needed. Please place your donations in the designated area to the left of the door as you enter the Commons. Thank you for your continued support of this valuable ministry for people in our community.

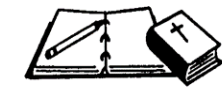


**Thank You!**

Thank you, Knights of Columbus, for donating money to buy turkeys for families in need. With your help, we were able to give 50 families a turkey for Thanksgiving this year.

**Divine Mercy Cenacle**

Please join us in the Commons at **12:45PM**, after the noon Mass on **Tuesday, January 2nd**, to pray the *Divine Mercy Chaplet*, and learn about the revelations of Saint Faustina. This will be Week Number 62.



*Religious Education News*

The Religious Education Pageant is Sunday, December 10th, after the 9:30AM Mass. Students should arrive no later than 10:15AM to prepare.

Confirmation has been set for May 19, 2024, at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond City at 2:00PM.

First Holy Communion will be June 2, 2024.

Vacation Bible School will be for Saturday, June 22, 2024, from 9:00AM – 2:00PM. The theme for this coming year is *Dive Into Your Faith*. We will be exploring water imagery and symbolism in the Bible and Christianity; this will involve playing with water, so be prepared!

**Women's Bible Study** Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary

ADULTS ONLY, PLEASE!  
WINE & CHEESE  
PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP  
PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR HIM!

THURSDAYS - 7:00-8:30PM  
ST. JUDE HALL

DECEMBER 7TH: THE ANNUNCIATION  
DECEMBER 14TH: THE VISITATION  
DECEMBER 21ST: THE NATIVITY  
DECEMBER 28TH: THE PRESENTATION  
JANUARY 4TH: THE FINDING OF JESUS

SCAN TO SIGN UP!

**Mental Well-Being Ministry and Book Signing**

At the end of Mass on Saturday, December 9th, and Sunday, December 10th, Arn Manella will give a presentation on his story and on establishing the Mental Well-Being Ministry (MWM) here at St. Timothy. The ministry members are called to be a healing presence in the lives of people with mental challenges. Members practice a ministry of service and presence: like the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37), they do not look the other way or walk past those living with a mental illness, but instead pour the oil and wine of the Gospel into their lives. Members walk with people living with mental illness to help them find the support and resources that they need. For those interested in joining the MWM, several information meetings will be scheduled in the coming days and weeks.

Recently, Arn published his book *Suicide and the 90-Day Window*. In his foreword, Father Gerald E. Murray of EWTN's Papal Posse describes Arn this way: "Arn has led a fascinating life of devoted service to God, country, and family. His concern for those going through what he has experienced led him to write this wonderful account of what God and he have done together to overcome tragedy. His message to all of us is that life is a beautiful gift from the Lord, and He will guide us if we say yes to that gift each day of our lives."

All profits from sales of Arn's book go to charity.

**Help wanted**

to make Christmas wreaths for St. Timothy's buildings for Christmas. The Arts and Environment Committee is hoping you will join them on Friday December 15th at 9AM in St. Jude Hall. Greens will be provided along with wreath forms and wire. Please bring pruners and gloves if you wish.

**Christmas Sale**

There will be a Christmas Sale in St. Jude Hall the weekend of December 9th - 10th, after the Saturday 5:00PM Mass and Sunday 9:30AM Mass.

**It's Angel Tree Time!**



Great news - all the angels from our Angel Tree have been taken! Please be sure to return the unwrapped gifts to the church no later than the weekend of **December 10th**. Check off your name on the list when you return your angel. Thank you for participating in this wonderful ministry! Didn't get a chance to get an angel? You can still help out by bringing wrapping paper, boxes, tissue, bows, etc.

**Memorial Bricks**

Remember and memorialize a departed family member or friend in the Memorial Garden. The price is only \$100 and a duplicate for your home is available for an additional \$50. Pick up an order form from the Commons or contact the parish office.



**Considering a Vocation?**

"A voice is calling." Is Christ calling you to let Him manifest His love in you as a priest or consecrated religious? 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).

**Women's Luncheon Group**

All women of the church are invited to the Christmas Social, which will be held at Pauline Gwathmey's house in Bruington after the noon Mass on Tuesday, December 19th! Please bring your favorite dish and enjoy the fun and comraderie! Please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the Commons or email Elsie Manganò at [ecm08@live.com](mailto:ecm08@live.com). The group who attended our last luncheon had a great time!



**March for Life**

March for Life in Washington, DC is right around the corner on Friday, January 19, 2024. This is still very important to attend and support Life! St. Timothy's will again be sponsoring a bus to attend the March for Life and would love to have as many attend as possible! Please sign up on the sheet in the Commons if you are interested, or if you have questions, call the office. Thank you!

**Caregiver Support Group** is presented by the **Alzheimer's Association** on the **3rd Wednesday** of each month at 2:00PM at the Essex Public Library. For more information about caregiver support groups, call Jennifer at 1-800-577-0558.

**Marriage Retreat!** By offering married couples the beautiful experience of a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, the Catholic Church is affirming and supporting you in your chosen vocation – Marriage. Take advantage of this great gift to enhance your relationship and enjoy a love-filled weekend away together. For more information or to register, go to [WWME.org](http://WWME.org), click "Apply" and search for "Virginia" or your desired location. Feel free to contact Mark and Cathy Stangler at 703-378-4150 or [mstang1987@aol.com](mailto:mstang1987@aol.com) with any questions. Here are a few upcoming experiences:

- January 26-28, 2024 - Myrtle Beach, SC
- March 1-3, 2024 - College Park, MD
- April 12-14, 2024 - Herndon, VA