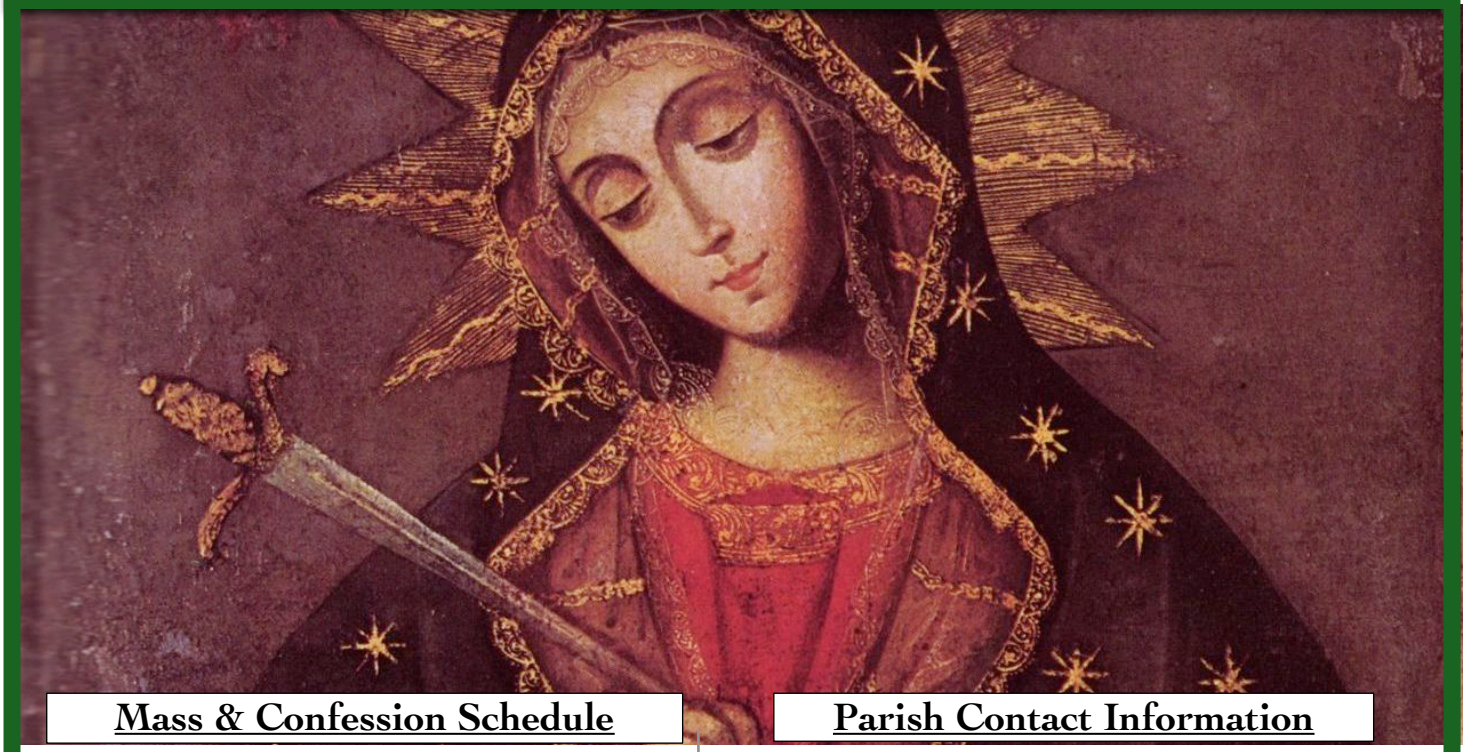
St. Peter Catholic Church

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 13, 2026



Mass & Confession Schedule

SUNDAY Masses (The Lord's Day)

Saturday	5 p.m.
Sunday	8:15
	9:45(Latin)
	11:30 a.m.

Daily Mass Schedule

Mon., Wed., & Fri.	8:30 a.m. & 11:15 am
Tuesday	No Public Mass
Thursday	7 p.m.
Exposition (Thursday)	7 - 8 p.m.
Exposition (Friday)	9 - 11 a.m.
Saturday	8:30 a.m.
Holy Day of Obligation	Varies

Confessions Schedule

Mon., Wed., Fri., & Sat.	After Morning Masses
Thursday	7:45 – 8:20 p.m.
Saturday	4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Art Credit: *Our Lady of Sorrows,*
Marcos Zapata, 1700's

Parish Contact Information

Pastor: Fr. Richard Carr (540) 675-3432
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Deadline for bulletin submissions: noon Monday

Epiphany Catholic School (PK–8) (540) 825-9017
epiphanycatholicschool.org

Religious Education: Mary Wingate
stpeterschurchRE@gmail.com

Parish Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday
9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Cemetery Hours by Appointment

12762 Lee Highway, Washington, Virginia 22747
(540) 675-3432
www.stpeterparishva.org

Mass Intentions and Feasts

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Readings: Sir 27:30—28:7/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35 (130) Pss IV)
September 12 5:00 p.m. Rev. Mark A. Pilon+
September 13 8:15 a.m Rev. Gerard Creedon+
9:45 a.m. Winona Butters
11:30 a.m. People of the Parish

Monday— The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
September 14 8:30 a.m Living & Dec. Members of James Powell Family
11:15 a.m. Garret Nicholas

Tuesday— Our Lady of Sorrows
September 15 Private Mass Chryss Hernandez

Wednesday— Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
September 16 8:30 a.m Mary Reinboldt
11:15 a.m. Olivia Coble Sweet

Thursday— Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
September 17 7:00 p.m. Lynette Cowie Hepton+

Friday— Weekday in Ordinary Time
September 18 8:30 a.m. Henry H. Wingate
11:15 a.m. Rev. Cornelius O'Brien+

Saturday— Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr
September 19 8:30 a.m. Eileen Sauer+
4 p.m. Confessions
5:00 p.m. Theodore "Theo" Warzinski+

Prayers for the Sick

Please pray for the following parishioners and their relatives:

Nicholas Hovey
Eileen Hawkins
Jim Haley
Lindy Klaus
Kathy Eggers
Ronin O'Neill
Bernadette O'Heir
Leigh Sargent
Ray Mifflin
Michelle Suess
Tara Cintorino
Stephanie DiNapoli
Shirley Franey
Robert B. Beattie
Mike Cioffi
Jerry Bowerman
Joanne Sellors

Ministry of Mercy

"Growing in our Catholic Faith through the Works of Mercy"

Prayer for Our Lady of Sorrows – Feast Day September 15:
I beseech you, O Lord Jesus Christ, that the Blessed Virgin Mary, whose most Holy Soul was pierced in the hour of Your Passion by the sword of sorrow and who knows the great mercy of Your love for us, will intercede before the throne of God on our behalf now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Front Royal Pregnancy Center Walk for Life, October 17: This year's annual Walk for Life, organized by FRPC, will take place on Saturday, October 17, starting at 9:00 AM behind their center. You may have heard from Nanette Hogan or Marie Riedel, the team leaders from St. Peter's, inviting us to support this important fundraiser. To register for the walk or to donate, please visit https://charity.pledgeit.org/FRPCWalkForLife.

Ministry of Mercy Meetings – September 14: Since it is our custom not to meet on a holiday weekend, our next Ministry of Mercy meeting will take place on Monday, September 14, after the 8:30 AM Mass and rosary for the needs of our parish.

Vote "No" November 3, 2026

This fall, in the Commonwealth of Virginia, two proposed amendments are on the ballot. They are threats to the human right to life and the truth of marriage.

These proposed amendments are called the "Virginia Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment" and the "Virginia Remove Constitutional Same-Sex Marriage Ban Amendment."

As faithful Catholics, we must vote "No" on these proposed amendments.

Pastor's Piece

Beloved, **The Lord's Day**

What is the first thing you think of when you hear the word "Sunday"? Because our Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead on a Sunday, the early Christians changed the Lord's Day from Saturday to Sunday. So, the first thing that we should think of when we hear "Sunday", is the Lord's Day, the Resurrection, the day to be sanctified through Holy Mass and rest in Christ.

As we read in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, para. 2184, *"the institution of the Lord's Day helps everyone enjoy adequate rest and leisure to cultivate their familial, cultural, social, and religious lives."* In para. 2185, it states, *"On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day … Family needs or important social service can legitimately excuse from the obligation of Sunday rest. The faithful should see to it that legitimate excuses do not lead to habits prejudicial to religion, family life, and health."*

Moreover, para. 2187 reads, *"Sanctifying Sundays and holy days requires a common effort. Every Christian should avoid making unnecessary demands on others that would hinder them from observing the Lord's Day. Traditional activities (sport, restaurants, etc.), and social necessities (public services, etc.), require some people to work on Sundays, but everyone should still take care to set aside sufficient time for leisure … public authorities should ensure citizens a time intended for rest and divine worship. Employers have a similar obligation toward their employees."*

The Catechism recognizes that some people must work on Sunday for the common good, including public safety and health, and that many restaurants will be open to accommodate travelers but that there is an obligation on the part of employers to ensure that their employees can still have some ability to observe the Lord's Day. In our post-Christian society, many businesses that are not necessary for the common good, require people to work on Sundays. If you have such a job and need it to support yourself or family, it is not a sin to do so. Yet for your own spiritual good, if possible, it would be best to find a different job or line of work. In the mid-20th Century, the Church began allowing evening Masses on Sunday and Saturday, to make it easier for those who must work on Sunday to still come to Mass.

The line from the Catechism that has struck me throughout my priesthood is that we are to *"avoid making unnecessary demands on others that would hinder them from observing the Lord's Day."* Thus, shopping on Sundays – especially in the morning, should be very exceptional, such as to buy medicine for a sudden illness. When living in a Christian society, this was much easier as it wasn't only Chick-Fil-a and Hobby Lobby but nearly every store and even many restaurants were closed on the Lord's Day. Today it is socially acceptable to go out to eat, shop, etc. on Sundays, as if it were the same as the other six days of the week. Sadly, when we do, others must work to serve us. Let us realize that those who are most impacted are the young, the poor, and the working class who often must work on Sunday or they will be fired from their job. As a result, many miss Sunday Mass and are more likely to ultimately fall away from Christ and His Church. Image the impact if all practicing Catholics, as a general rule, avoided shopping and going out to eat on Sundays! Many businesses would likely decide to close, enabling more of our brothers and sisters the ability to attend the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on the Lord's Day and enjoy it as a refreshing day of rest.

For nearly 25 years I have made a concerted effort to avoid shopping, etc. on the Lord's Day, which was initially quite challenging (especially on vacations) but has become much easier over the years. I realize that many of you have likely never heard a priest encourage this and that it can thus be more easily dismissed as the personal opinion of your new pastor. I do urge you to at least prayerfully read over the words of the Catechism and hope that some of you will be moved to at least some modifications in your Sunday actions. A principal reason I am writing this so soon after my arrival here, is that you understand why I don't accept an invitation to go out to eat or drink at a restaurant, etc. on a Sunday. The focus this week was on what to avoid on the Lord's Day. Next week, I will write about how to have a sanctifying and refreshing Lord's Day!

In Our Mother of Sorrows,
Father Carr