

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

8462 General Puller Highway

P.O. Box 38

Topping, Virginia 23169

Phone: (804) 758-5160

Fax: (804)758-0676

E-Mail: churchofthevisitation@va.metrocast.net

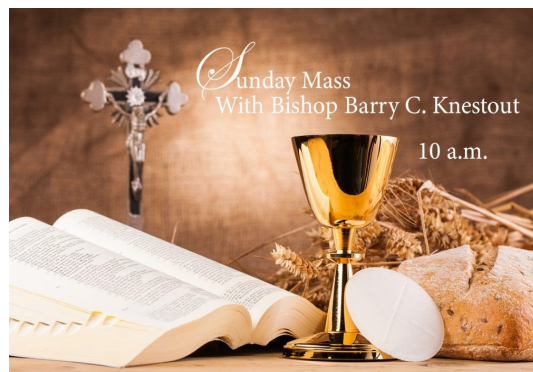
Website: www.church-of-the-visitation.org

Pastor, Gerald Kaggwa

119 Club Drive

Hartfield, VA 23071

Phone: 804-286-9271



As announced in his March 16 letter to the faithful, **Bishop Barry C. Knestout** will celebrate a private Mass on Sunday, March 22, at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. The Mass, which will consecrate the Catholic Diocese of Richmond to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, will be livestreamed at 10am.

www.richmonddioocese.org



Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that you are truly Present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things

And I desire to possess

You within my soul.

Since I am unable at this

Moment to receive You

Sacramentally,

Come at least spiritually

Into my heart.

I embrace You as being

Already there, and unite

Myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be

Separated from you.

Amen.

2020 Catholic Diocese of Richmond



Upcoming information:



FR JOHN BODDIE MEMEORIAL GOLF CLASSIC

As of this moment, the Classic is on, but we will continue to evaluate it. Friday, May 8th, at the Piankatank River Golf Course.

It has always been a fun-filled event with multiple prizes and raffle items. At this point we need golfers, donors, raffle items, and silent auction items. For the golfers the cost is \$80, which includes a cart, a round of spirited competition, free drinks (2) on the course, golf balls, a chance to win a car for a hole-in-one and other prizes.



If you can't play, maybe you can volunteer to help us on the day of the tournament or donate money or an item we can place in the Raffle or Silent Auction. For our parishioners, the Silent Auction will take place on the two Sundays prior to the tournament and the day after.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from March 15, 2020

Collection:	\$ 1,403
Second Collection:	
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 73,561
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 82,232

We signed the following principle checks this week:
\$1,544 Diocesan Assessments; \$260 Lawn Care;
\$636 February Electricity.

“Prayer must accompany us through every stage of our actions...”
— Bishop Knestout, "From Tragedy to Hope" Sept. 14, 2018

You are invited to join us as we

PRAY THE ROSARY FOR HEALING & PROTECTION

April 3, following noon Mass with Bishop Knestout
Pastoral Center Chapel, 7800 Carousel Lane, Richmond

Father Gerry's HOMILY

The Fourth Sunday of Lent, "*Laetare* (Rejoice) Sunday." March 22, 2020

Today's Gospel tells us of the blind man whose eyes are opened by Jesus. The opening of the man's eyes symbolizes also the opening of our eyes of faith. This story tells us that the man was blind from birth. To heal him then, meant the beginning of a completely new life, a life where he can see. The prevailing thinking of that time was that his blindness was a punishment because of his own sin or the sin of his parents, as the disciples show in their question to Jesus. So, others would look down upon him. He would be avoided. In the society of his time he would be an outsider.

Jesus sees him, takes pity on him and opens his eyes. It is Jesus who takes the initiative even before the man could ask. We probably cannot imagine what this meant to him. By healing him of his blindness Jesus frees him on a number of levels. He is physically healed. He is no longer an outsider in society, he is part of it. He has received a new dignity. Jesus raises him up. Above all, his eyes are opened spiritually and he accepts Jesus as the Son of God.

This miracle of Jesus' giving of sight to a man born blind, teaches us the necessity of opening the eyes of our mind by Faith, and warns us that those who assume they see the truth are often blind, while those who acknowledge their blindness are given clear vision. To live as a Christian is to see, to have clear vision about God, about ourselves and about others. Our Lenten prayers and sacrifices should serve to heal our spiritual blindness so that we can look at others, see them as children of God and love them as our own brothers and sisters saved by the death and Resurrection of Jesus.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is known as "*Laetare* (Rejoice) Sunday," expressing the Church's joy in anticipation of the Resurrection of our Lord. But in these days of the COVID-19 pandemic, how can we rejoice? We are all in a panic! Jesus is our healer, he healed the blind man, he can also heal us. Let us take this time of enforced 'social distancing' to take time to reflect on life, its meaning, how I live it, how I interact with others and ask Jesus to touch us and make us whole again.



Please Remember in your prayers

Pat Tyrrell, Christopher Morrell, Lavonne Pearce & Matt Ponish

PARISHIONERS

Min Tassone, Mary Sychterz, John McCormack, Dave Marchant, Jim Moncure, Grace Anderson, Natalie Smith, Tom Shepherd, Lorie & Sal Messina, Lee & Pat Paul, Georgia Beville, Margaret Hock, Anne Dunn, Michelle Chmiel, Tom & Cindy Jessee, Richie Siford, Carter & Peggy Williams, Karen Dame, Joe Nolte, Mike Lokie, Lynn & Jim Vajda, Steve Kirsch, Marilynne Cerullo, Tom Hawksworth, Mary Ann & Kenneth Gulick, Nancy Wirth, Chris Henkel, Vincent Recupido, Bettie Hodge, Bob & Ingrid Borden, Laurie King, Becky Nunn, Bill & Linda Gray, Peg Meushaw, Carol Smith, Allen Hines, Pat & Lee Reamy, Janine Jaboulay, Anne Paparella, Carole McPherson, Jeanne Lessner, Colin Walsh.

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FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Auggie Bain, Maria Franzoni, Pumpkin Brownley, Rita Blommel, Brenda Knupp, Ashely Scott & family, Steve Smith, Susie Loustaunau, Elizabeth Panzer, Linda Cryer, Tyra Freed, Valerie McCarthy, Joan & John Rychtarik.