

TO VIEW OUR MASS @ 9AM-SUNDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

Go to our website:

<http://www.church-of-the-visitation.org/>

Under "Bulletin" or "Links" there is a Facebook icon-just click and you will go directly to the Facebook page and be able to view the livestream.



\*Remember you **do not** have to have a Facebook account to view the live stream.

\*If you need help or support in anyway with the livestream, please call the office or send and email. We will respond as soon as possible.

*\*During Mass you can respond in the comment section to interact with others who are also viewing the Mass. "We're all in this together!"*



### A Hearty Welcome to Our 3 New Parishioner Families...



Michele Meanley  
286 Queens Creek Road  
Hallieford, VA 23068  
641-895-9736

Roger Scott  
2170 Stormont Road  
Saluda, VA 23149  
757-208-1751



Pat DeGroot  
312 Browns Store Road  
Heathsville, VA 22473  
804-625-2125

Address updates:  
Fredrick Johnson  
48 Holly Circle  
Irvington, VA 22480

Parishioners that have moved and their new addresses

Bob & Kris Scherrer  
4365 Bythal Hill Circle  
Wilmington, NC 28409  
804-337-0715

John & Pattie Sobieski  
7923 Founders Mill Way  
Gloucester, VA 23061  
804-699-3395

Stephanie Selmer  
1070 Fairway Drive  
Waynesboro VA 22980

## The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

8462 General Puller Highway/P.O. Box 38  
Topping, Virginia 23169 Phone: 804-758-5160  
E-Mail: [churchofthevisitation@va.metrocast.net](mailto:churchofthevisitation@va.metrocast.net)  
Website: [www.church-of-the-visitation.org](http://www.church-of-the-visitation.org)  
Pastor: Gerald Kaggwa Rectory: 804-286-9271



**WHAT EVERY PASTOR  
THINKS HE LOOKS LIKE...**



**Technically, Moses**



was the first person  
with a tablet  
downloading data  
from the cloud

It's all right to sit on your potty every now and again. Just be sure to flush when you are done.



**Question:** Where is the first baseball game in the Bible?

**Answer:** In the big inning. Eve stole first, Adam stole second. Cain struck out Abel. The Giants and the Angels were rained out.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 2, 2020

Year A

## 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time,

August 2, 2020

The central theme of today's readings is that God takes care of his people. He takes care of our physical and spiritual needs if we put our trust in Him. He shares with us all his goodness through his Son Jesus who became our Savior and spiritual food, in Word and in Eucharist. We are challenged by the scripture message today to imitate our heavenly Father by sharing our blessings with others as He shares His goodness with us.

In the first reading, Isaiah invites us to have trust in God. "Heed me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare". This message is assuring us that God will provide for our spiritual and physical needs if we listen and follow His will. And in the second reading, Paul argues that since God's love for us is so immense and infinite, nothing can separate us from His Love made manifest in Christ.

In today's Gospel, Jesus demonstrates God's caring love for us His people. The Gospel says that when Jesus heard the news about John, He withdrew to a deserted place to be by Himself. Jesus often went off somewhere to pray. What must His prayers have been after hearing about John's death? Perhaps He was trying to understand the will of the Father for John and for Him. Perhaps He was contemplating the meaning of death. Perhaps, Jesus was considering the mystery of evil. John, the greatest prophet to live, had been put to death by pure evil, a King who wanted to please his daughter. Certainly, Jesus was grieving over the death of His kinsman, the one who had baptized him and pointed at Him for all humanity that he was the Messiah, the Lamb of God. Think of the emotions Jesus must have felt: anguish, torment, and probably even guilt for not being there to stop it. Most likely, these emotions flooded his mind as "he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself."

But after Jesus arrived at that place, did he find the solitude he was looking for? Far from it. A crowd of 5,000 waited for him, people who were there not to comfort him in his anguish, nor to mourn with him, but rather, to ask him to attend to their personal needs, to cure them, and to hear him speak. When Jesus saw them, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick, and fed them in the end. He could not allow His grief to keep Him from caring for the people. He needed to feed them, in word and in deed. Where did the resilience come from, that allowed Jesus to face the multitudes when all he really wanted to do was to be alone?

The answer is his commitment to the 'Mission' the Father sent him to accomplish. Which is bringing good news to his people. In this mission, Jesus was not alone but always united to the Father. The Bible has numerous passages in which Jesus speaks to his need to be by himself in prayer with his Father, to nurture and deepen his relationship with God, so that in times of deep distress he would have the well-spring of strength and compassion necessary to rise up to the occasion and deal with the hardship of the people he came to save.

And so, it is with us. The past months have been hard on most of us. A pandemic, civil unrest and a widening political divide have us looking for a deserted island, where we can block these issues from our minds. Unfortunately, for most of us, that is not an option. Instead, we need to understand that our daily prayers and quiet times of reflection and solitude are as important for our well-being as daily exercise and healthy eating is for our bodies. Focused time spent in prayer with God can strengthen our resolve and provide us with guideposts to follow when we are faced with difficult in the mission of building God's Kingdom. We can pray for strength and courage to endure the hardships. Most of all, we can pray to not let fear and anger push our love for each other out of our hearts. We can pray that through all hardship, we will love like God does, and not count the costs.

Like Jesus who wanted to be alone to mourn the death of John the Baptist but felt compassion for the people and went straight into service; teaching them, taking care of the their sick and feeding them, we too, should not let our feelings or emotions, opinion or prejudice stand in our way of showing love to our brothers and sisters.



Very Reverend Gerald Kagwa, V.F.

## TODAY'S MASS

First Reading:

Isaiah 55:1-3

Responsorial Psalm:

*The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.*

Second Reading:

Romans 8:35, 37-39

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

*Father suggests you say the Prayer for Spiritual Communion during communion time.*



## 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.



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

*Arlene Toler, Nancy Dunlop, Tom Dundon,*

### PARISHIONERS

Michele Meaney, Donna Lange, Jack Petralia, Tom Wash, Paul Pearce, Lynn & Jim Vajda, Min Tassone, John McCormack, Jim Moncure, Grace Anderson, Natalie Smith, Lorie & Sal Messina, Pat Paul, Georgia Beville, Margaret Hock, Anne Dunn, Michelle Chmiel, Tom & Cindy Jessee, Richie Siford, Carter & Peggy Williams, Karen Dame, Joe Nolte, Mike Lokie, 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.

### FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Tom & Bernie Smith, Al & Virginia Talke, Phil Melancon, Ray Kostaskey, Doris Melancon, Dominick Perry, Kimberly Lavinder, Frank & Gerri Lohrs daughter, Doug Meuse, Michele Brune, Noele & Mike Anglin, Anita Bomberger, Drinkwater Family, Kathy Shepherd, Lucy Walker, Suzanne Whelan, Jim Rundle, Rundle-Kehl family, Doris & Arthur Green, Rachel, Brian & Marcus Pittman, Robbie Beasley, Sandra Bush & Children, Mary Gray, Denis Popp, PJ Schwedler, John Calvin Barnard, Sal Messina Jr., Colleen O'Rollins, Michael Reamy, Linda Borostovik, Sarah Kobezak, Natash Walsh, Ellen DeMaurez, Michele MacFarland, Shirley Schultz, LC Warren, Paul Krop, Dolores Powers, Joseph Gascoigne, John Vajda, Sandy Alter, Andy & Iris Hetzer.

### FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Remy Maine Miller, Jessie Debusk, Ryan & Jeanne Norris, Donna Newcomb, Vickie Hogge, Auggie Bain, Maria Franzoni, Pumpkin Brownley, Rita Blommel, Brenda Knupp, Ashley Scott & family, Steve Smith, Susie Loustaunau, Elizabeth Panzer, Linda Cryer, Tyra Freed, Valerie McCarthy, Joan & John Rychtarik.





### BIRTHDAY'S FOR AUGUST

Ed Harriman-1st, Carol Walsh-1st, Germaine Hayes-3rd, Dave Marchant-5th, Patricia Paul-5th, James Davenport-6th, Grace Anderson-6th, Mary Hess-7th, Pat Marchant-8th, Al Langer-10th, Mary Sue Dougherty-11, Donna Thompson-12th, Steve Kirsch-12th, Aldo DeCollibus-15th, Lee Reamy-20th, Mary Lou Miller-21st, Roseanne Moncure-21st, Francis Demaurez-23rd, Ron Beville-26th, Dick Dougherty-24th, Mary Ann Gulick-28th, Rebecca Riley-29th, Bill Puttmann-29th.



### ANNIVERSARYS FOR AUGUST

Spike & Becky Nunn-2nd, Charlie & Margaret Hock-3rd, John & Vera England-4th, Dennis & Susan Lynch-5th, Charlie & Anne Costello-7th, Tom & Cindy Jessee-8th, Don & Maria Tyrrell-8th, Skip & Lois Kramb-10th, Richie & Nancy Siford 14th, Sal & Lorie Messina-17th, Mike & Gretchen Borzelleca-18th, John & Carol McCormack-19th, Lee & Pat Reamy-22nd, Bill & Michelle Puttmann-25th.

Please join us in prayer after Communion.

### BICENTENNIAL PRAYER



Father of lights, the radiance of your Son has guided the advance of the Gospel across the Diocese of Richmond for two centuries, strengthening our Church from the Eastern Shore to the Cumberland Gap. Grant that the nearness of your Son may dispel the darkness of our sins, so that as our love increases more and more, we may dare more than ever to fearlessly proclaim the word. Holding fast to the word of life, may we shine like stars in the world. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS APPEAL



The "Knights" will be collecting donations for the Annual "Kovar" appeal after Mass today and next Sunday. Grand Knight Bill Brandl will briefly speak about the appeal before we exit, but in short it's a worthy appeal that helps the mentally challenged and others.

### Greetings

It is my hope and prayer that you are all well and staying safe. As I have said on many occasions, the safety of all from being infected by this terrible virus is a responsibility of each one of us. The measures put in place to protect us may seem to some as an intrusion or stepping on their rights, but as Christians we should remember that charity is a virtue. Whatever I do to protect others from getting sick is an act of charity towards the others.

Last week as Church ministers who form the Mathews Ministerial Association, we wrote an open letter in the Newspaper. I find it very touching and would like to share it with you.

*"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves." Philippians 2:3*

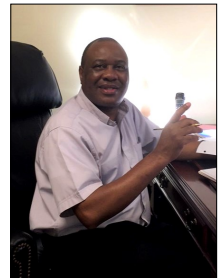
We are in the middle of a global pandemic which has claimed over 137,000 lives in this nation alone, and which has shown no signs of slowing down. In scripture, Jesus says that the greatest commandment was to love God with all our heart, minds, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Jesus also commands us to take up our own crosses daily if we want to be his disciples, and to lay our lives down for our friends. We, your spiritual ministers, urge all Christians to obey these commands of Christ in one simple way:

**get a mask and wear it.**

Wearing a mask in public may be burdensome to many, but our faith demands that we set our own preferences and comfort aside for the well-being of our neighbors. This is not only a proven way to slow the spread of this virus, it is a strong witness to our faith and the deep love we have for our community. It is not an act of fear or faithlessness, but a demonstration of goodwill, respect, and concern. Wearing our masks in public may be inconvenient, but that is the nature of every cross we bear as followers of Jesus Christ.

We represent a wide variety of denominations and theologies. Our churches may have different strategies for resuming in-person worship. But as the faith leaders of this community, one thing we urge everyone to do as a matter of faith is to love your neighbor, to bear your crosses gladly, and to wear a mask when you venture out.

Fr. Gerry





MAIL IN OFFERTORY, AND ON LINE DONATIONS: JULY 26, 2020

Collection: \$ 1,124  
Second Collection:  
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 8,535  
Total Budget Projection: \$ 10,323



Our second collection today is for Parish Pence.

We signed the following principal check this week:  
\$220 June Telephone.

As an alternative to mailing us a weekly donation, you can do it online at [offertory.richmonddiocese.org](http://offertory.richmonddiocese.org). Open the site, select a donation amount and scroll down and select our church. It is a very simple process.



*Today's flowers are in honor of all Health Care Workers,  
First Responders and Parish Priests.*

*Joe and Mary Sychterz*

APPEAL SHARE



The Diocese sent us a check for \$4,452.50 last week representing our share of donations received for the Annual Diocesan Appeal as of June 30th. Our thanks to those of you who have donated to the appeal and continue to fulfill pledges to it. As a Mission church we receive back 50% of all funds donated.

TOM SHEPHERD'S MASS OF THE RESURRECTION INFORMATION

Will be Friday, August 28th at 2 PM at the Church of the Incarnation in Charlottesville, VA 22901.

The Church address is 1465 Incarnation Drive Charlottesville-, VA.22901  
it's on 29 North near the intersection of Rio Rd and RT 29, and also just south of the old Fashion Square Mall.

The funeral will be under current COVID restrictions, wearing of a mask is required and social distancing required with marked off areas and much hand sanitizer available. There will also be streaming of the service, Afterwards we are inviting all to a social at our home with essentially the same restrictions and tented areas outside to allow for distancing and mask wearing while inside our home.

With God's Peace, Lynn Shepherd & family

CHURCH INFORMATION

Our hours for prayer when the church is open are Wednesday and Thursday from 9AM-12:00.

Church attendance was 50 this past Sunday with one guest. This coming week the Mass is for **parishioners in Group L-Z** with allowance for visitors, household guests, and special cases such as assigned ministers. The important thing to remember is to **notify the office** if you or your guest are planning to attend Mass and are not in the proper alphabetical grouping.

We continue to offer daily Mass on Wednesdays and Thursdays for anyone who desires to attend.

We also continue to repeat much of this information weekly as a constant reminder to parishioners of our protocols and expected behaviors.

We are heartened by your willingness to adhere to these procedures which have allowed us to successfully celebrate Mass up to now for all in person and at home.

*We are now in the fifth month of the Pandemic and two full months of celebrating Public Masses. Our original thoughts this would be over with in a few months, the choir's melodious sounds would be heard shortly, the church would be full of parishioners and summer guests, and we would be preparing to ward off a second wave in the fall. Obviously none of these things have occurred-we wear masks, sit apart from each other, limit socializing, and church attendance, and many of our church families cannot risk attending Mass because of compromising health conditions.*

*Many persons have stepped up to play important roles in this new normal. Mike Dreelin has perfected the live streaming, his wife Lynne became a Lector to assist us, Andrea has donated countless hours to monitor the Mass steaming and man the office on Sundays, and Lector and Community Leader volunteers have increased in numbers steadily.*

*Tom Shoemaker and his usher corps deserve special recognition. Tom planned the seating arrangement, and oversees the entire entrance, seating, data collection, communion, and exiting process. He has been helped weekly by Tom Hawksworth and Al Langer, and Bi-weekly by Don Delagrang and Bill Brandl. This past Sunday we introduced a new touchless hand sanitizer station and have available a non-contact infrared thermometer, if needed. Clara, Jerry Suyes spouse, donated these items for our use and we thank her sincerely.*

*Thank you to everyone and may God continue to Bless Us All!*

