

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!"*

## REPUBLISHED FOR YOUR INFORMATION



**Diocese of Richmond**

Office of the Bishop

July 11, 2020

Dear Faithful of the Diocese of Richmond,

Today we commemorate the founding of our local Church two hundred years ago, and we recognize the Catholic presence in the Central Vicariate of our diocese.

The Catholic Church in Virginia experienced a period of turmoil that led Pope Pius VII to establish the Diocese of Richmond on July 11, 1820. Our founding document states that this diocese was created in order to resolve a formal division of believers that had arisen in Norfolk over the ownership of Church property and the appointment of pastors.

According to the text of our charter, "Since it seems to be very expedient for the extinction of the schisms which have arisen in it... We...have established and decreed that... a new... Church... be erected at Richmond... and that it should embrace the whole State of Virginia."

Over the course of the next two centuries, Catholics in the Diocese of Richmond achieved some triumphs and successes, but they also experienced adversity and failure. Throughout this time, the Church persevered. Our bicentennial jubilee is a shrine to that witness of Catholic faith.

The fact that the diocesan bicentennial is taking place at a daunting time reminds us that we are part of this tradition of faith. In the past several months, the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has gripped the world. More recently, calls for racial justice have resounded in our country amid social upheaval. In both cases, the Church continues to proclaim the Gospel of Christ's death and resurrection, which impels us to alleviate suffering and hopelessness, and to uphold the dignity of all persons.

This weekend's ordination of two priests and a transitional deacon is a hopeful sign that the work of the Church is ongoing. With gratitude for the establishment of our diocese, and for two hundred years of Catholic witness, I have asked that a special Mass formulary from the *Roman Missal* (For Giving Thanks to God) be used throughout the diocese this weekend.

Like those who have gone before us in faith, may we carry out the work God has entrusted to us, bringing to fulfillment the words of our bicentennial motto: "Shine like stars in the world, as you hold fast to the word of life" (Phil. 2:15-16).

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout  
Bishop of Richmond

## *The Catholic Church Of The Visitation*

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Pastor: Gerald Kaggwa Rectory: 804-286-9271



*16th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*July 19, 2020*

*Year A*

Today's Mass is offered for the Soul of Jenny Johnson Ramey.  
May she rest in peace.

## 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

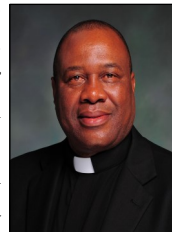
July 19, 2020

Today's readings tell us about a very patient and compassionate God Who is hopeful that the so-called bad among us will be converted. We are presented in these reading a God who is merciful and patient not a disciplining and punishing God. We are invited today to avoid hasty judgment and always to apply justice with kindness. "And you taught your people, by these deeds, that those who are just must be kind". (Wisdom 12:19) St. Paul in his letter to the Romans, which is our second reading, reminds us that the Spirit of God constantly empowers us in our prayers and in our weakness. So, the Lord knows that we need him, he knows that we are weak, and that is why he is always patient with us. In return, we should also be patient with ourselves and with others.

In the Gospel today, Jesus gives three parables: the parable of the man sowing good seeds and then his enemy comes and sows weeds in his field, we have the parable of the Mustard seed which grows into a big tree, and last we have the parable of yeast and flour. In all these parables Jesus wants to show us how God can transform even the simple things in our lives into great things. But always to experience the loving power of God we need patience.

In the parable of the wheat and the weeds, Jesus presents a wise and patient God who allows the good and the evil to coexist in the world and gives the evil ones a time to change. For he takes care for the little good they may have hoping that they may come to conversion before their time ends. "Let the wheat and the weeds *grow together till the harvest time.*" In other words, God awaits repentant sinners, giving them the strength and good will to get reconciled with Him. God calmly recognizes that there is evil in the world, but He sees that evil is no excuse for the good people not to do good with the power of God at their disposal. Through the parable of the wheat and the weeds in today's Gospel, Jesus calls us to be patient with those who fail to meet the high ethical standard expected especially of a Christian.

Therefore, we need to learn from our loving God and practice patience and mercy, justice with kindness. Let us patiently and lovingly treat the others, even those we judge "not good" in our society as our brothers and sisters and do all in our power to put them back on the right path especially by our good examples, encouragement, respect and acceptance. Let us remember that most of us have some "weeds" in our lives, but God has showed us mercy. God is so merciful that He allows evil to exist in order that what is good may grow. He allows evil to exist also because He can turn it into good. Through the power of the Spirit, God can change anyone of us into his instrument of good in the World. In God's field, we have two responsibilities: to grow in grace or God's favor and to share His Word and love with others. We need to grow up as healthy wheat in God's field, leaving the "weeds" for God to take care of. Our faith and our Christian lives are and will always be a compelling challenge and a forceful invitation to others turn to a loving and forgiving God. Our acts of charity, kindness, mercy, encouragement, loving correction and selfless service can prompt the "weeds" in our society to reassess their lives, modify them and become useful members of society.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

## TODAY'S MASS

First Reading:

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Responsorial Psalm:

*Lord, you are good and forgiving.*

Second Reading:

Romans 8:26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

*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

*Jenny Johnson Ramey, Margureite Hock & Lee Paul*



### PARISHIONERS

Tommy & Donna Lange, Jack Petralia, Tom Wash, Paul Pearce, Lynn & Jim Vajda, Min Tassone, John McCormack, Jim Moncure, Grace Anderson, Natalie Smith, 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, 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

Michele Meanely, 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, Tom & Karen Smith, 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 JULY



Kathy Kauffman-2nd, Susan Lynch, Lisa Forte & Eileen Wagner-4th,  
Leisa DeCollibus-5th, Colin Walsh-6th, Jaxon Wong & Stephanie Selmer-7th,  
John Charbeneau-9th, Brendan O'Brien-11th, Mason Andezjezak-12th,  
Tessa Stowell-13th, John Weidner-15th, Sal Messina-17th, Bettie Hodge & Andrew  
Bury-20th, Kathy Swinehart-21st, Karl Bayer-22nd, Laurie Mears & Fernando Atienza-24th,  
Ingrid Borden-27th, Christine Tutak-29th, Bill Harris-30th

### ANNIVERSARYS FOR JULY

Bill & Georgia Campbell-7th, Tom & Bea Foley-16th



## A Hearty Welcome to

Michelle Leitch  
44689 Three Coves Road  
Hollywood, Maryland 20636  
443-532-6787

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE DIOCESE OF RICHMOND

By Father Anthony E. Marques

Part 2

Parishes were small, far flung, and poor for most of the history of the Richmond Diocese. Developments in transportation (canals, railroads, trolley lines, and automobiles) led to modest growth in the Catholic population. Immigration also contributed to this gradual increase. Various ethnic groups settled in the diocese at different times: French, Irish, Germans, Lebanese (Maronites), Filipinos, Hispanics, Vietnamese, Koreans, and Africans. The Catholic Church experienced growth spurts in Northern Virginia and Tidewater as the federal government and military expanded when the United States entered World War I (1917) and World War II (1941), and during the Cold War (1946-1989).

African Americans experienced even greater hardships as Catholics than other members of the Church. The first African slaves in Virginia were likely baptized Catholics (1619). Following the Civil War (1861-1865), the Church took steps to evangelize freed slaves and established separate parishes and schools for black Catholics (ca. 1865-1965). They often endured ridicule from black Protestants and prejudice within the Catholic Church. Most black churches were closed during the civil rights era to integrate parishes (1961-1970), but many African Americans opposed the loss of their distinctive communities.

To be continued...

### 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*

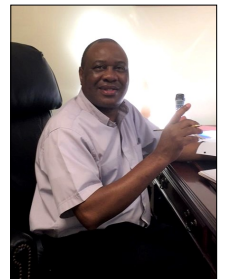
We are in the middle of a global pandemic which has claimed over 137,000 lives in this nation alone, and which has shown no signs of slowing down. In scripture, Jesus says that the greatest commandment was to love God with all our heart, minds, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Jesus 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 12, 2020

Collection:	\$ 3,779
Second Collection: Parish Beautification	\$ 235
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 4,973
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 5,658



We signed the following principal check this week:  
\$1,544 Diocesan Assessments; \$285 Lawn Care

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 donated by  
Ed & Debby Harriman and Sal & Lorie Messina.

*In memory of Debby Harriman's brother, Rollin Cowles and  
brother in laws Earl Doughney & Don Grover.*

*In loving memory of our mothers Hilda Messina and Anna Sedock.  
Sal and Lorie Messina*

AN EARLY REMINDER

Don't forget to VOTE...

If you are not already registered to vote where you live, or you are unable to get to the polls on Election Day here are three ways in which you can make sure your vote is counted:

Registration Application or an Absentee Ballot Application forms may be gotten from:

- \* Middlesex Social Services
- \* Registrar's Office at 105 Bowden Street, Saluda
- \* or apply online at <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov>

*Let your voice be heard on November 3, 2020*

*In person voting hours on Election Day are 6AM-8PM*



CHURCH INFORMATION

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

Church attendance was 53 this past Sunday with several guests. 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 for anyone who desires to attend.

Thanks to your generosity we will continue to decorate the Altar with flowers provided by parishioner Evelyn Scott. If you want to donate towards that expense, please send us \$25 and we will recognize your contribution in the bulletin. As you are aware, it's an appropriate way to honor your loved ones.

*We 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.*

A safe environment is a necessity, and we strive to establish it. If you have a suggestion to improve it, please mention it to Father or the office we are far from infallible in this regard.

*Attached to your Bulletin is the Annual Financial Report, normally provided by Ray at the Ambo with humor at times. The Pandemic has had a negative affect financially on the parish. Even with Diocesan Assistance, we failed to meet our income budget goals this year. They have been lessened for this year, but still require your continuous and regular support to meet our fixed expenses and special needs.*

*If you have a question about the year end report, please call the office, and we will attempt to answer it.*

We want to reemphasize that you are under no obligation to attend Mass. If you choose to, we welcome your participation. Livestreaming will continue indefinitely for those who cannot attend or choose not to.

Thank you and may God continue to Bless You.

