

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
Two new parishioner families:*



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



Roger Scott
2071 Stormont Road
Saluda, VA 23149
757-208-1751

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 SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

During a Sunday school lesson, a child learned about how God created human beings. The child became especially focused when the teacher explained how Eve was created from Adam's ribs. Later in the week, the boy's mother saw him lying down on the floor, so she asked him what was wrong. His reply was priceless: "Mom, I have a pain in my side—I think I'm getting a wife."

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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Pastor: Gerald Kaggwa Rectory: 804-286-9271



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 26, 2020

Year A

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 26, 2020

Today's readings are about discernment. They are about making the right choices in our lives. Because the choices we make in our daily lives—at work, home and everywhere in-between, demonstrate our priorities. We need discernment. We need wisdom to look at our options and come up with the right decision, the decision that is most pleasing to God and most in line with our faith values. Our decisions reflect the things we prioritize most in life: 'our treasures'

The first reading tells us how the young King Solomon opted for the great treasure of accepting God to rule his life by doing God's will. That is why he requested of God for the gift of prudence, *an understanding heart to distinguish right from wrong*, so that he might govern God's people properly. He could have asked for anything. But he chose to ask for "an understanding heart, to judge God's people and to distinguish right from wrong." He put his trust in God to give him the wisdom needed to lead his people.

And the message of today's Gospel is an invitation for us to always seek that of true value. With different parables, Jesus teaches us that God's Kingdom (the rule of God in us, accepting Jesus as in our lives, putting our Faith in God and doing His will), is something of extraordinary value, like a hidden treasure or a costly pearl, and that possessing it calls for a total commitment to preserve it. The Kingdom of God is God's reign in our hearts, in our lives, in our homes, in our society, and in our world. Only those who develop a searching mind and a heart willing to give up everything for the great treasure of God's Kingdom will be rewarded with happiness. Through these parables of the treasure and pearl, Jesus teaches us that identifying God's will and living according to the Gospel, are the most precious and worthwhile things in life. Through Jesus and his Gospel, we come to know and understand the real meaning of life, the will of God for us each day, and the most important things we must do in order to be and feel that we are people of God's kingdom.

The Question for us is: What are our treasures, what do I take to be of value that I give up everything else and seek only that? For us there is only one treasure one thing of value, and that is Jesus. The man in the first parable in the Gospel today found the treasure and went off happy, "with joy" the Gospel says, and sold everything he had to buy this one field which had a treasure. If we are not happy with our life, we still have not found the treasure. For us, our treasure is Jesus and the kingdom of God. The message is simple: We should live every moment in view of our precious goal, "God's kingdom". Most of the time, we are chasing false treasures such as possessions, social status, or worldly pleasures. Thus, the valuable "pearl" of sharing in God's life through Jesus here on earth is never found. Let us always remember that the happiness of God's kingdom is within the reach of all of us who try to do the will of God, following the ordinary ways of life in faith and enjoying this world's joys and pleasures within the framework of the Gospel values. When we do this, we are already living in the Kingdom of God while we are still on earth.

We need the wisdom like that Solomon prayed for in order to discern between good and evil, what is right for our life. We do not have to set out on a journey to find this Jesus, No, he is always around us. We do not have to spend anything to find Jesus, the only cost is our trust in him that he can guide us to a better way of living.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading:

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, I love your commands.

Second Reading:

Romans 8:28-30

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

*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



Morgan Wells, Tom Farrell, Charlotte Neuburger, & Father Bob Nash

PARISHIONERS

Michele Meanely, 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, 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

Phil Melancon, Ray Kostaskey, Doris Melancon, Dominick Perry, Kimberly Lavinder, Frank & Geri 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, Ashely 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.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE DIOCESE OF RICHMOND

By Father Anthony E. Marques

Part 3

The relatively small Catholic population in the Richmond Diocese has been spread out over a territory that remained vast even as its boundaries were altered several times (1850, 1868, 1974). Virginia has long been a mission field, as far back as the official prohibition against Catholicism (1607-1786). Even after religious freedom was established in the commonwealth, many Catholics continued to face bigotry and suspicion. They gradually gained social acceptance by accommodating their religion to Protestant surroundings; by advancing professionally, helped by Catholic education; by fighting in their country's wars; and by carrying out charitable works. The diocese is still missionary country, however, since Catholics are now also a minority that lives in a secular culture with diminished religious practice. The clerical abuse scandal (2002, 2018) has also damaged the Church's credibility.

Thirteen bishops have governed the Church of Richmond over the course of its two-hundred-year history. Today, the diocese includes 200,00 Catholics (who make up five % of the total population), 191 priests, 161 deacons, 139 parishes, and 30 schools.

The bicentennial of this local Church (1820-2020) is a testament to the perseverance of Catholics in Virginia. Despite adversity and failures, they have practiced their faith and helped to improve their society.

A more complete narrative of the Richmond Diocese is available at 2020.richmonddiocese.org



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

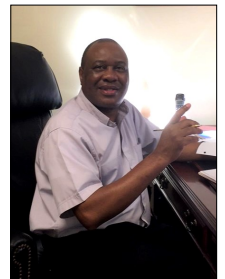
We are in the middle of a global pandemic which has claimed over 137,000 lives in this nation alone, and which has shown no signs of slowing down. In scripture, Jesus says that the greatest commandment was to love God with all our heart, minds, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Jesus 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 19, 2020

Collection: \$ 2,438
Second Collection:
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 7,411
Total Budget Projection: \$ 8,259



We signed the following principal check this week:
\$159 Printer Leasing Fee.

As an alternative to mailing us a weekly donation, you can do it online at offertory.richmonddioocese.org. Open the site, select a donation amount and scroll down and select our church. It is a very simple process.



In memory of all families that experienced deaths of loved ones from COVID-19.

Ed & Debby Harriman.

AN EARLY REMINDER

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

Don't forget to VOTE...

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

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>



REGRETS

Last week we announced the deaths of parishioner Lee Paul and former parishioner Jenny Johnson Ramey. Both Memorial Services were held last weekend. Our prayers and thoughts are with both families in their time of need.

APPEAL SHARE



The Diocese sent us a check for \$4,452.50 this 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.

God does not command that we do great things, only little things with great love.

-Mother Teresa

CHURCH INFORMATION

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

Church attendance was 62 this past Sunday with 17 guests. This coming week the Mass is for **parishioners in Group A-K** 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.

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 donate \$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.

