

E-GIVING

During the Pandemic, the Diocese set up a temporary e-giving process which several of our parishioners have used consistently in support of the parish. For some, it's a convenient method for donations, and many churches praise the process for increasing offertory collections.

Because of its convenience and success, we desire to introduce e-giving as a permanent fixture in the parish. We have re-researched the matter, looked at several companies that offer it, and determined that the company the Diocese and we use for administrative and financial record keeping, Parish Soft, offers the best financial option.

Before we move ahead with the process though, we need to gauge your interest. Attached to the bulletin is a survey form asking four questions. We ask that you review them, answer them, and send us a "reply" e-mail with your answers.

For those of you who receiving the Bulletin via mail, answer the questions and return the paper to us by mail or when attending Mass. Please remember to review and participate in our survey so we can make a learned decision.

The Finance Council.



GROUND MAINTENANCE



The summer weather has produced heat, humidity, and much rain at times, leading to an abundance of weeds. Although we did our best to control them, at times they got out of hand, such as recently in the Mary Statue Garden. Thanks to Mary and Joe Sychterz's donation we were able to hire someone to do the job that had overwhelmed Andrea and Ray.

CHURCH FOOTBALL HUMOR

Quarterback Sneak

Church members quietly leaving during the altar call.

Halftime

The period between Sunday School and morning worship when many choose to leave.

Benchwarmer

Those who do not sing, pray, work or apparently do anything but sit.

Backfield-in-Motion

Making a trip to the back (restroom or water fountain) during the service.



To be continued.

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
Website: www.church-of-the-visitation.org
Pastor: Gerald Kaggwa Rectory: 804-286-9271



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 13, 2020
Year A

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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The message of last Sunday was God's command concerning our spiritual responsibility and individual accountability for others: in our families, parishes, and community. Because, as brothers and sisters created by a loving God, we become each other's keepers. This Sunday, the focus is on forgiveness. From the first reading to the Gospel, we are invited to learn how to forgive and the consequences of not forgiving.

Sirach in the first reading warns us that if we do not forgive our brothers and sisters then we should not expect forgiveness from God for us. "Could anyone refuse mercy for another like himself, and then seek pardon for his sins?"

In the Gospel, Peter poses the question, an entirely practical one, by asking how many times we must forgive those who sin against us. "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" In this Question Peter is going beyond what was being taught at the time in the Synagogues, that one had a duty to forgive someone three times, and so we can see that (Peter), by putting forward the possibility of forgiving seven times, probably thinks he is doing very well indeed. For Jesus that is not enough. He says: "I say to you not seven times but seventy-seven times".

What Jesus is saying and proposing is that, the amount of times we should forgive is far greater than we could imagine, it is endless. For the true follower of Christ, there can be no limits to how many times or how much he or she forgives. The Christian realizes the great mercy he or she has received from a God who sent His Son to become one of us to die for us so that we can have eternal life. The Christian understands that given the forgiveness we have received from God there can be no limit to the forgiveness he or she extends to others. We strive for this ideal. It is also one of the hardest tasks of Christianity.

Jesus continues to give a parable to illustrate the importance of forgiveness. This Parable has two sides: being forgiven and the consequences/effects of not forgiving. Because forgiveness affects both sides, the forgiven and the forgiver and likewise if we do not forgive our brothers and sisters the effect is on both sides. And many times, the one who refuses to forgive is affected the most.

The focus of our forgiveness should not just be on the person we are forgiving, or even the particular action we are forgiving. The focus of our forgiveness should primarily be on getting back on track with our lives. When you really think about it, all forgiveness ends up with oneself. We need to survive and move on from our hurts, or we will always be bogged down by our anger. We need to forgive the people who have hurt us so we can be people who don't hurt others.

For by failing to forgive, we hurt ourselves more than anyone else. Surely this is what Jesus had in mind when he told the parable and how the merciless servant was cast into prison when he refused to forgive his fellow servant. I do not think he was suggesting that God would cancel his mercy. He is simply saying that an unforgiving spirit creates a prison of its own. It builds up walls of bitterness and resentment and there is no escape until we come to forgive.

Forgiving and letting go is not easy, but we are called to do exactly that, because as Sirach reminded us in the first reading, if we do not forgive who will forgive our sins when it is our turn to ask for forgiveness?

When we are wronged or hurt by someone normally we have three choices: (1) I will never forgive that person (2) I know forgiving is the right thing to do but can't forgive because the hurt is too great (3) I want and wish to forgive and let go with God's help.

The right choice is to forgive. Jesus is challenging us to day not to make excuses, but to forgive, to be merciful as our heavenly Father is merciful. He forgives us our many sins without conditions. We should do the same, not once or twice... but always.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

TODAY'S MASS

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading:
Sirach 27:30-28:7

Responsorial Psalm:
The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

Second Reading:
Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

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

Thomas

PARISHIONERS

Veronica O'Leary, Michele Meanelly, 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

Aquela Parker, Khloe Nipper, Bernie Smith, 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, 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

Cathy Kirkland, Steve Sohles, 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

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List please contact the office by email or phone.



MAIL IN OFFERTORY, AND ON LINE DONATIONS: SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Collection:	\$ 2,317
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 20,010
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 21,886

Our second collection today is for the Uganda School Project.

We signed the following principal check this week:
\$1,345 Diocesan Assessments.



As an alternative to mailing us a weekly donation, you can do it online at offertry.richmonddiocese.org. Open the site, select a donation amount and scroll down and [select our church](#).

WEBSITE PATIENCE

The new website debuted on Sunday, August 30th. The format makes the site compatible with easy viewing on your cellphone. In order to meet a tight deadline, it was decided to transfer most of the data from the old website to the new without doing a complete update at this time. Over the next few months changes will be made to bring the website up to current events and to correct historical data. There are limitations to how much information can be published on the website before making it overwhelming to maintain and keep updated, so a definite need must be established before an item will be included for publication. Your comments will be appreciated and can be mailed to churchofthevisitation@va.metrocast.net.
Thank you Mike Dreelin for all your dedication and hard work to COV.



SCAM ALERT FROM DIOCESES

Over the weekend, IT was alerted to yet another scam email making the rounds. This one pretends to be from the Bishop (via a bogus gmail account) asking for Steam gift cards. Please note that neither the Bishop nor any other Diocesan official will EVER ask you for gift cards via email. These scams continue to be perpetuated because they continue to work. We ask that you do not reply to such emails, click on links within those emails or download content in them. If you receive help requests that you think are legitimate, verify that the person is legitimate **by calling them directly on another known valid number**. Don't ask the emailer for information or a call. Find an offline method of correspondence that you and that person have used in the past to talk with each other.

BIRTHDAY'S FOR SEPTEMBER



Genji Katsuki & Maddox Derdock-2nd, Minn Tassone-3rd, Larry Miller-4th, Jose Angeles Frias-5th, Mary Sychterz-9th, Eileen O'Brien-10th, Christopher Kirsch-11th, Terry Hess-13th, John Moore-14th, Cherianne Johnson, Cindy Jessee, & Dolores Powers-15th, Shelley Katsuki, Wayne Toney & Pattie Sobieski-20th, Emily Filippi-21st, Joyce Ballato-22nd, Kris Scherrer-23rd, Maria Tyrrell-26th, Richard Siford-29th, John & Kevin Walsh-30th.



ANNIVERSARY DATES FOR SEPTEMBER

John & Diane Weidner-8th, Steve & Loraine Kirsch-10th, Bryan & Jennifer Miller-12th, Genji & Shelley Katsuki-17th, Jim & Lynn Vjda-14th.

Financial Facts and Challenge

For those of you who regularly follow the financial facts we publish, you are aware the Pandemic has negatively affected our offertory receipts and financial foundation.

During the first few months, the Diocese offered a relief package that reduced some church expenses and covered others. A few parishioners gave us donations in advance, and some increased their normal contribution amounts. On the other hand, some stopped contributing to the church completely for unknown reason. July was the first month without extraordinary assistance, and we experienced a negative cash flow. August appears to be negative as well.

This situation will continue to draw down our existing assets to a dangerous level unless our parishioners who are able to do so begin contributing regularly as they had done in the past, despite only being able to attend Mass bi-weekly or not at all.

In the past, we have asked the parish to support special causes (St. Noa School, Living Our Mission, Parish Pence, to name a few), but never have we had to ask you to provide a steady monthly contribution. Our fixed monthly expenses average about \$8750, and if every registered family contributed regularly to the offertory, these expenses could be met.

In summary, we need to increase our offertory collections.
You can help by doing the following:

Ensure you support the church regularly even though you may not attend Mass weekly.

When away for more than a short period of time, continue to support us during your absence.

Assess if you can increase your donation amount slightly.

With Gratitude and Love
Fr. Gerry

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, and let there be food in my house. And test me about this, says the Lord, as to whether I will not open to you the floodgates of heaven, and pour out to you a blessing, all the way to abundance."



VOTE IN NOVEMBER



We Americans have shared many years of pride for our country and accomplishments. We have also suffered pain in the loss of thousands of our military who died to keep us safe. We have survived the Great Depression and many, many storms such as tornadoes, hurricanes, and earthquakes through the years.

But we still have the biggest hurdle of all. We need to abolish abortion once and for all! It is the killing of tiny innocent babies in the womb of their mothers. Babies are a precious gift from God. And no one has the right to kill them! They used to be safe in their mother's womb. But since 1973 when abortions were made legal it has become the most dangerous place for a baby to be.

All the baby wants is to be loved and cherished.

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Forgiveness and Mercy



Reading I: Sirach 27:30-28:7 (call to forgiveness and mercy)

Reading II: Romans 14:7-9 (to live and die for Christ)

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35 (the merciless official)

Key Passage: Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times." (Matthew 18:21-22)

Adult: When someone hurts you, how do you forgive them?

Child: When have you forgiven someone who treated you unfairly?

Give me a sense of humor, Lord,
Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humor out of life
And pass it on to other folk.

CHURCH INFORMATION

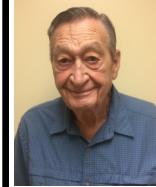
Our hours for prayer when the church is open are Wednesday and Thursday from 9AM-12:00.

Church attendance was 55 this past Sunday with 9 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 and Thursdays @9AM for anyone who desires to attend.

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.

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



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

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS 9/13

Lector: Mary Ellen & Tom Shoemaker

Community Leader: Gary Richardson



COMMUNITY FREE DRIVE-THRU EVENTS

Flu Vaccination

The Blackwood Foundation, Hands Across Middlesex, and the Instructional Visiting Nurses Association have joined together to provide easy and FREE access to getting this year's Flu shot.

Hands Across Middlesex (Cryer Center) will be providing this service, as mentioned, free of any charge on the schedule below. Please note this service is available to **ALL** residents eight years old and above. The Flu shot will be professionally administered by a R.N. in a drive-through venue. No appointment is required, and all participants should wear a mask.

September 22nd and October 13th - 10:00AM to 4:00PM

Cryer Center, 7485 General Puller Highway, Locust Hill.

Note: The busiest period at the Cryer Center is from 10:00AM to 12noon.