

### BREAKING BREAD SONGBOOKS

After consideration of several persons' requests to gain access to paper copies of the readings, we are permitting parishioners to take home and retain in their possession copies of breaking bread. If you desire to take one home with you, and are at Mass this Sunday, just pick one up after Mass. It will be yours to keep, and if we return to past "normal" between now and December, when the new liturgical year begins, you will be responsible for bringing your copy with you each week to use. For those parishioners who do not attend Mass this week, or at all, during these pandemic times, you can get a copy from the office during office hours or ask the Dreelin's to deliver you one (they have consented to do this task).

### 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.

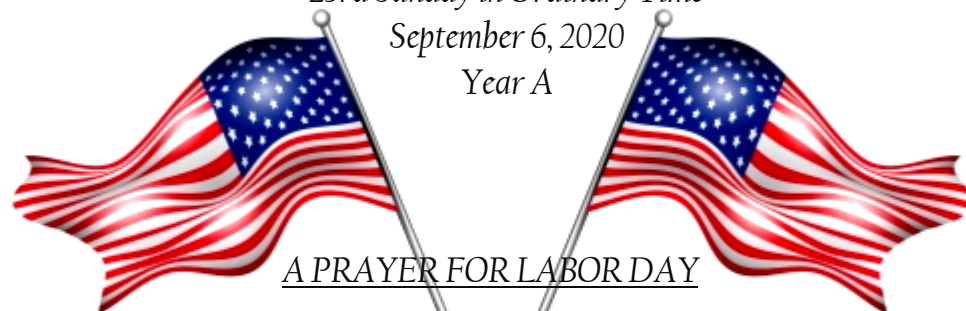
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Topping, Virginia 23169 Phone: 804-758-5160  
E-Mail: churchofthevisitation@va.metrocast.net  
Website: www.church-of-the-visitation.org  
Pastor: Gerald Kaggwa Rectory: 804-286-9271



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 6, 2020

Year A



### A PRAYER FOR LABOR DAY

*Lord, on this Labor Day, we thank You for the blessing of work.*

*We ask for strength to complete our duties each day.*

*We ask for rest when we are weary.*

*We ask Your guidance for everyone seeking employment,*

*and we ask that You be with those whose faces*

*we might never see but who work tirelessly each day*

*for the good of us all.*

*Amen.*

## 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 6, 2020

The message of this Sunday's readings is God's command concerning our spiritual responsibility and individual accountability for others in our families, parishes, and community. This accountability arises from our identity as God's children. As brothers and sisters in Christ, then, we become each other's "keepers," and take on a painful, triple responsibility. We must lovingly and prudently correct each other when we err, forgive those who offend us, and ask forgiveness from those we have offended.

In the first reading, God tells Ezekiel that he is to be a "watchman for the house of Israel," obliged to warn Israel of moral dangers. If Ezekiel should refrain from speaking God's word given to convert the wicked, God will hold Ezekiel responsible for the death of the wicked. In the second reading, St. Paul points out that we should: "Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another," for out of love one should admonish and correcting the other about keeping the commandments. Because love seeks the good of the one who is loved. Love does no evil to the neighbor.

Today's Gospel message about how to treat a brother who sins against you, is not intended to provide an outline for an increasingly intense juridical procedure whose intention is to get a person to admit that he's wrong so that he can be punished. It is an exercise of love for the brother who is a sinner, a lost sheep. Love, which knows no limits, moves one to do whatever can be done to bring back the brother from a place of serious sin to the joy of repentance. The increasing intensity—from a one-on-one conversation to a small group to "the Church" to pointing out that the sin has broken the person's relationships with God and community, the Church, only illustrates the depth of love one ought to have for the brother/sister who sins. His very life is a stake—do all that you can to persuade him or her to return and, if needed, enlist the help of others to do so.

Many Christians tend to think that they have no right to intervene in the private lives of their fellow believers. Others evade the issue saying: as a human being who makes mistakes, I do not have the moral courage or the right to correct anyone. But Jesus emphatically affirms that we are our brothers' keepers, and we have the serious obligation to correct others. We need to offer advice and encouragement to our friends, neighbors, and coworkers when it is needed, and loving correction, in private, for a personal offense where that is possible.

When we have been hurt, seriously hurt by another, the sting tends to propel us toward seeking some form of revenge or making the offender hurt in some way. But the Gospel proposes love as a remedy. In the face of someone who has offended us, we are called to go against the tendency to think only of ourselves and, instead, to pray for the grace to love. Then, moved by love, we ask for the grace to do whatever it takes to bring our brother or sister to forgiveness and change.

We are reminded today of the good we can do together, and of how we can do it. Jesus says, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." If any group of us gather, work, and act with the Holy Spirit guiding us, we will become much more than simply the sum of our numbers. Today, Jesus makes it clear how important we are, one to another. One in Christ, our community can draw on God's power to make His healing, life-giving love, more effective among His people. We should always work for the good of one another such that, no one is lost, no one is excluded.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

## TODAY'S MASS

### 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading:  
Ezekiel 33:7-9

Responsorial Psalm:  
*If today you hear his voice,  
harden not your hearts.*

Second Reading:  
Romans 13:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 18: 15-20

*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 Smith Sr., Alfred Talke and Katherine Nunn*



### PARISHIONERS

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

Aquila 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 Panzer, Linda Cryer, Tyra Freed, Valerie McCarthy, Joan & John Rychtarik.

*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: AUGUST 30, 2020

Collection: \$ 1,550  
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 17,693  
Total Budget Projection: \$ 18,966

There is no second collection today.

We did not sign any principal check this week.



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

### 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*

## 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 Mller-12th, Genji & Shelley Katsuki-17th, Jim & Lynn Vjda-14th.

## WEBSITE PATIENCE



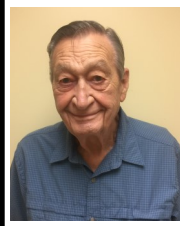
The new website debuted on Sunday, August 30th. The format makes the site compatible with easy viewing on you cellphone. In order to meet a tight deadline, it was decided to transfer most of the data from the old website to the new without doing a complete update at this time. Over the nest few months 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 [churchofthevisitaion@va.metrocast.net](mailto:churchofthevisitaion@va.metrocast.net)  
*Thank you Mike Dreelin for all you dedication and hard work to COV.*

A message from Father Gerry on this Labor Day Weekend.

### "LORD, BLESS THE WORK OF OUR HANDS"

On this Labor Day weekend we are invited to honor human work and all human workers. This year, due to the pandemic we find ourselves at a challenging moment, and to many, it is a time of crisis. COVID-19 has disrupted everything and has brought a lot of hardships to many people. But even before that, many families were struggling, some had to work two jobs to make ends meet. With Coronavirus, things got worse. Many workers lost their jobs, those who kept their jobs had to continue to work in difficult and risky conditions.

So, on this Labor Day, we should spare a thought especially for those workers in the front lines to fight the pandemic, the medical workers, those who work in grocery stores, those who keep us safe, the teachers who at this moment are trying to figure out how to effectively teach their students in a safe way for both teachers and students. Keep in mind those who have lost their jobs, those who are furloughed and those whose earnings have been reduced and now find it hard to take care of their families. May the Lord give each one of us a heart to look out for our brothers and sisters in these uncertain times.



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

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

Lectors: Fernando Atienza  
& Lynne Dreelin  
Community Leader:  
Kathy Kauffman

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

SPECIAL DONATION



Bishop Knestout asked that parishes consider a special collection for the Catholic Relief Services' Lebanon Disaster Response to the colossal explosion in the Port of Beirut which caused widespread destruction and loss of life. He noted that the Lebanese Maronite Community has a presence in Virginia, in particular Richmond and Roanoke. As an option, his Excellency asked that we make a gift from parish funds designated for charitable purposes. We chose to go that way and made a donation from our Parish Pence

MEMORIAL MASS



We will celebrate a graveside service for our beloved *Mary Heeke* at 11AM on Saturday, September 12th in the cemetery.

CHURCH INFORMATION

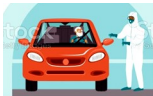
Our hours for prayer when the church is open are Wednesday and Thursday from 9AM-12:00.

Church attendance was 40 this past Sunday with one guest. 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 @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!*



COMMUNITY FREE DRIVE-THRU EVENTS

Flu Vaccination

During this COVID-19 pandemic It is **more important than ever** for you and your family to be protected from the flu. The Blackwood Foundation, Hands Across Middlesex, and the Instructional Visiting Nurses Association have joined to provide easy and FREE access to getting this year's Flu shot.

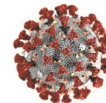
We will be providing this service, as mentioned, free of any charge on the schedule below. Please note this service is available to ALL residents eight years old and above. The Flu shot will be professionally administered by a R.N. in a drive-through venue. No appointment is required, and all participants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

Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>-9:00 to 11:00AM Clarksbury United Methodist Church (15924 General Puller Highway, Deltaville ).

Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> and October 13<sup>th</sup>-10:00AM to 4:00PM Cryer Center, 7485 General Puller Highway, Locust Hill.

Note: we anticipate our busiest period at the Cryer Center to be from 10:00AM to 12noon.

Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>-2PM to 6PM Middlesex County Health Department.



FREE COVID-19 Testing

Friday, Sept 4<sup>th</sup>-2PM-6PM  
Middlesex County Health Department