

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

This is the final list of those individuals who consented to run for election to the Council. Each parishioner over the age of 16 is entitled to vote and attached to the bulletin is a ballot for your use. We have three vacancies to fill so you can vote for up to three persons.

We will conduct the election over two weekends, and you can vote in several ways:

Fill in the ballot and send to us electronically

Fill in the ballot and bring it to church on one of the next two Sundays depositing it in the collection basket

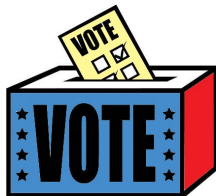
Fill it in and drop it off at the office with face mask on anytime during working hours

Fill it in and mail it to us (P.O. Box 38, Topping 23169)

Call us with your choices

Although we inherently trust all of our parishioners, please sign your ballot so we can avoid an inadvertent stuffing.

Cathy Davenport	Marianne Krop
Kevin Hayes	Bill Puttmann
Charlie Hock	Mary Ellen Sherwood
Cindy Jessee	Barbara Smith
Shelley Katsuki	Kathy Swinehart
Jack King	Mary Sychterz



MASS OF THE RESURRECTION

Rest in Peace

Wednesday a week ago we celebrated a Mass of Resurrection for Carter "Randy" Williams. 39 close family and friends attended and the Mass was livestreamed. Randy was the spouse of our long time parishioner Peggy, father of Christine and grandfather of Brennan Williams.

Our prayers are with Peggy, Christine and Brennan as well as the rest of the family.

ST NOA NEWS

Father Gerry just sent \$5,000 from the Uganda fund to Uganda for the purchase of radios for St Noa's school. Because of the pandemic, the students are unable to attend classes at the school. The radios will be used to provide the students a virtual learning experience similar to what our students are having with computers.

YARD SALE RECEIPTS

The Cryer Center gave us a check for \$2,180 last week representing our share of parishioners' donations of goods to the Center which are subsequently sold. We thank those parishioners who are remembering to remind the Center that they belong to COV when donating items of value there.

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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E-Mail: churchofthevisitation@va.metrocast.net

Website: www.church-of-the-visitation.org

Pastor: Gerald Kaggwa Rectory: 804-286-9271



October 18, 2020

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

29th Sunday In Ordinary Time

October 18, 2020

The common theme of today's readings is the nature of our obligations to God and to our country. The readings show us how, with God's help, we can be ideal citizens in our respective Nations and at the same time work for God's Kingdom.

In the first reading, Isaiah the prophet foretells how, unintentionally, the policies of the great Persian Emperor Cyrus will be made part of God's saving plan for His chosen people. He calls him His anointed, he called him by name to lead His people.

In the Gospel, Jesus is asked by the Pharisees and Herodians who wanted to trap him: "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" The trap was set in such a way that whatever answer Jesus gives will get himself in trouble. "Is it lawful to pay tax to the Romans or not?" If he said "yes," they could have declared him a traitor and a Roman sympathizer. He would be a Jew telling people to support their oppressors. If he said "No," then they would have run to the Romans telling them that he was preaching sedition, plotting against the Empire.

Jesus settled the question with a simple, but profound answer: "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." This passage leads us to consider how we carry out our responsibilities to our country and to our God. With this answer, Jesus reminds his questioners that, if they are so concerned and careful about paying taxes to the state, they should be much more concerned and careful about their service to God and their obligations to Him as their Creator and Lord. We fulfill our duties to our country by loyally obeying the just laws of the State and working for the welfare of all citizens. We belong to God's Kingdom by obeying God's laws, by giving Him due worship and by actively participate in God's work.

We need to "give to Caesar what is Caesar's", meaning we have to pay taxes because it is the duty of Christians, as citizens of the country, to pay for the services and the privileges that government provides, like paved roads, police and fire departments, hospitals, schools, and other necessities. If we refuse to pay taxes, how will these needs be met? Another way of "giving to Caesar what is Caesar's" is to participate actively in the running of the government, electing the most suitable candidates and influencing them through frequent contacts. Third, we must submit to the civil authorities and respect the just laws of our country in order to live in peace. As loyal citizens, we must also see to it that our elected representatives are faithful in maintaining law and order in the country and in promoting the welfare of all its citizens without violating God's laws.

We need to "give to God what is belongs to God" because we are created in God's image and we belong to Him. Giving to God comes naturally when we realize how much God loves us. The closer we come to God, the more we become friends of God, the more we want to give to God who gave everything to us in the first place. Giving to God is not a command but is pure joy for us and an act of love because we are giving back to God who first loved us and gave us everything we have. We give to God by putting Him first of all else. God made us for himself, and giving to God, putting God first, is the only way to true happiness.

We also give to God by Our contribution to the parish Church as an expression of our gratitude to God, giving back to God all that He has given us. Active participation in the various ministries of the parish by offering to God of our time and talents is another way of giving to God what belongs to God, our very self.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

TODAY'S MASS

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Responsorial Psalm:

Give the Lord glory and honor.

Second Reading:

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Gospel: Matthew 22-15-21

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

Carter Williams, Dave Marchant, & Dennis Geilow



PARISHIONERS

Suzanne Sitterding, Veronica O'Leary, Michele Meanelly, Donna Lange, Jack & Louise Petralia, Tom Wash, Paul Pearce, Lynn & Jim Vajda, Min Tassone, 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

Pam Tibbs, Sherry Newton, Aqela Parker, Khloe Nipper, Bernie Smith, Virginia Talke, Phil Melancon, Ray Kostesky, 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, Joseph Gascoigne, John Vajda, Sandy Alter, Andy & Iris Hetzer.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Paula Harcum, 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: OCTOBER 11, 2020

Collection: \$ 1,914
Second Collection:
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 32,422
Total Budget Projection: \$ 33,673



Our second collection today is for World Missions.

We signed the following principal check this week:

\$1,348 Diocesan Assessments; \$116 Printer Usage & Service Fees.



As an alternative to mailing us a weekly donation, you can visit our website www.church-of-the-visitation.org. Click the Red Donation button, select our church, a donation amount and fill in the information. Use the green secure button and done.

BIRTHDAY'S FOR OCTOBER



1st-Anne Baltrusaitis, Kevin Hayes, Charles Walsh & Dot Edwards,
3rd-Bryan & Cayden Miller, 4th-Jean Kostaskey, 8th-Bill Campbell,
9th-Peg Meushaw, 12th-Diane Weidner, 13th-Marilynne Cerullo,
15th-Fr. Gerry Kaggwa, 16th-Mary Malone Johnson, 17th-Lois Farrell & Alexia
Quinn, 18th-Fredrick Johnson & Jerome Andrzejczak, 19th-Tom Jessee, 20th-
Len Swinehart, 23rd-Blair Pausic & Becky Nunn, 24th Tony Robusto & Mary Beth
Andrzejczak, 26th-Vincent Recupido, 27th-Tom Dorman, Jan Smith, 29th-Nathalie
Smith, 30th-JoAnn Nolte.

ANNIVERSARY DATES FOR OCTOBER



5th-Kevin & Germaine Hayes, Michael & Joyce Ballato, 7th-Lee & Barbara Hollingsworth
& John & Pattie Sobieski, 10th-John & Andrea Moore, 25th-James & Cathy Davenport,
27th-Steve & Lisa Forte

THE GREAT AWAKENING IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY

On Sunday, October 25, at 4:00 PM the Middlesex County Museum and Historical Society will sponsor a Zoom lecture on the Great Awakening. The Reverend Dr. Robert W. Pritchard will speak on "The Great Awakening and its Effects on Middlesex County." The Great Awakening was a mid-18th century American religious revival that was a part of a broader revival in Protestant churches in Germany, the Netherlands, the British Isles, the thirteen American colonies, and South Africa. The Awakening had a lasting effect on the shape of American life. Historians have long argued, for example, that it led to religious pluralism, shaped the character of African-American religion, cemented the common identity of the thirteen colonies as distinct from British colonies in Canada and the Caribbean, and contributed to the American Revolution.

Dr. Pritchard is the Arthur Lee Kinsolving Professor Emeritus of Christianity in America at the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria. He is the former president of the Historical Society of the Episcopal Church and is the author or editor of ten books. A question and answer period will follow the lecture.

To request the Zoom link or telephone dial-in number for this lecture, please email the Middlesex Museum at middlesexmuseum@va.metrocast.net or call 804-758-3663.

Mission Sunday

This Sunday, October 18th, we celebrate World Mission Sunday. The celebration of World Mission Day is also an occasion for reaffirming how prayer, reflection and the material help of your offerings are so many opportunities to participate actively in the mission of Jesus in his Church. Pope Francis in his message for this Sunday writes:

"In this year marked by the suffering and challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic, the missionary journey of the whole Church continues in light of the words found in the account of the calling of the prophet Isaiah: "Here am I, send me" (6:8). This is the ever new response to the Lord's question: "Whom shall I send?" (ibid.). This invitation from God's merciful heart challenges both the Church and humanity as a whole in the current world crisis. "Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat... are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying 'We are perishing' (v. 38), so we too have realized that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this". We are indeed frightened, disoriented and afraid. Pain and death make us experience our human frailty, but at the same time remind us of our deep desire for life and liberation from evil. In this context, the call to mission, the invitation to step out of ourselves for love of God and neighbor presents itself as an opportunity for sharing, service and intercessory prayer. The mission that God entrusts to each one of us leads us from fear and introspection to a renewed realization that we find ourselves precisely when we give ourselves to others.

Understanding what God is saying to us at this time of pandemic also represents a challenge for the Church's mission. Illness, suffering, fear and isolation challenge us. The poverty of those who die alone, the abandoned, those who have lost their jobs and income, the homeless and those who lack food challenge us. Being forced to observe social distancing and to stay at home invites us to rediscover that we need social relationships as well as our communal relationship with God. Far from increasing mistrust and indifference, this situation should make us even more attentive to our way of relating to others. And prayer, in which God touches and moves our hearts, should make us ever more open to the need of our brothers and sisters for dignity and freedom, as well as our responsibility to care for all creation. The impossibility of gathering as a Church to celebrate the Eucharist has led us to share the experience of the many Christian communities that cannot celebrate Mass every Sunday. In all of this, God's question: "Whom shall I send?" is addressed once more to us and awaits a generous and convincing response: "Here am I, send me!" (Is 6:8). God continues to look for those whom he can send forth into the world and to the nations to bear witness to his love, his deliverance from sin and death, his liberation from evil (cf. Mt 9:35-38; Lk 10:1-12).

The charity expressed in the special collection this Sunday is aimed at supporting the missionary work through the Pontifical Mission Societies, in order to meet the spiritual and material needs of peoples and Churches throughout the world, for the salvation of all.

May the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of Evangelization and Comforter of the Afflicted, missionary disciple of her Son Jesus, continue to intercede for us and sustain us".

Fr. Gerry



RESPECT LIFE

October is Respect Life Month.

I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. ...But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. ...The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.”

*Pope Saint John Paul II, Evangelium vitae, no. 99. © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana.
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IMPORTANT REASONS TO HAVE A WILL

Seven out of 10 of us DO NOT have a will!! What are we thinking? No will? Do we not care what happens to those assets we will leave behind?

Did you know:

Without a will, your state's laws—not you— determine how, when and to whom your property is distributed?

You can reduce (or perhaps even eliminate) estate taxes and save taxes in a survivor's estate?

You can name your executor to manage and settle your estate?

You can designate beneficiaries for items such as heirlooms, art objects, jewelry or real estate?

You may create trusts to provide for your spouse, children and others?

You can be a blessing to COV through a bequest, which is simple, flexible and tax-deductible?

With a will, you can designate the guardian you wish for those under your care?

By including the church in your estate plan, you are securing the future of our parish. Making a legacy gift to our congregation doesn't have to be difficult.

It is as easy as making the church the beneficiary of all or part of one of your retirement accounts (traditional IRA, 401(k), 403(b), etc.). You can do the same thing with a life insurance policy. Contact the Parish office for more information.



Potential, Purpose, Promise

FATHER GERRY'S BIRTHDAY

This past Thursday we celebrated Father Gerry's Birthday with a small gathering after Daily Mass. We thank Lynn Vajda for arranging it. Please share your birthday thoughts with Father when convenient.



CHURCH INFORMATION

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

Church attendance was 43 this past Sunday with 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 Wednesday and Thursday @9AM for anyone who desires to attend.

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

CHURCH GROUND CLEAN UP

We forgot to mention in our blurb last week that the Knights and Jerry Suyes donated the money to defray the cost of the mulch that now adorns our gardens.



The grounds once again appear pristine and eye-engaging. Father Gerry is proud of the effort put forth by the parishioners to make our church as beautiful on the outside as it is spiritually within the parishioners' hearts.

We would like to put out a big THANK YOU to all those who worked on the clean up of the church gardens:

Gerri & Frank Lohr, Lynne & Gary Richardson,

John Weidner, Lynn Dreelin, John McCormack, Carol Smith, Tom Hawksworth, Eileen O'Brien, Mary Ellen Sherwood, Kevin Haves, Donna & Bill Brandl, Steve & Chris Kirsch, Joe Brinkley, Andrea Moore, Ray Kostas, Debby Harriman Kathy Kauffman, Fritz Sitterding, Steve & Lisa Forte & Father Gerry.

A special hug and thanks goes out to Joe and Mary Sychterz who coordinated this united effort.

