

### PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

The following persons have been nominated for election to the Parish Council:

Bob Borden	Jack King
Cathy Davenport	Marianne Krop
Lynne Dreelin	Bill Puttmann
Lois Farrell	Mary Ellen Sherwood
Dave Filippi	Barbara Smith
Kevin Hayes	Kathy Swinehart
Charlie Hock	Joe Sychterz
Cindy Jessee	Mary Sychterz
Tom Jessee	Carol Walsh
Shelley Katsuki	Chuck Walsh



The list will be active for two weeks, during which time the nominees who choose not to run have an opportunity to cross their name off the list. This can be done in three ways, call the office, send an email, or do it in person when coming to Mass.

### MANY THANKS

Vera England recently completed an update to our rich church history covering the last four years. Our history document is a treasured informational piece written by Vera and her creative pen.

We also thank Bob Borden for repairing the door leading to the nave from the administrative wing. It no longer groans and squeaks.



### MASS OF THE RESURRECTION

Last Tuesday we celebrated a Mass of Resurrection for parishioner Dave Marchant who had passed away the previous Friday. The Mass was livestreamed and 94 family and friends attended in person. A loyal parishioner, usher, knight, and former member of the Parish Council, Dave was a pillar of service to the community. Our prayers are with Pat and family.

### WEBSITE FACEBOOK FOR LIVESTREAMING INFORMATION

You may view the Facebook page whether you have a Facebook Account or not by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/ChurchoftheVisitation.ToppingVA/>

It may ask you to sign in (don't) it will begin to play when we go live approximately 2 minutes before 9AM Mass starts.

### NEW INITIATIVE IN THE BULLETIN

We are introducing a new initiative in the bulletin this week which allows you to instantly go to a website or email via a hyperlink. A *Hyperlink* is a word, email or picture in a document that allows you to visit a designated webpage or website. We will use the Respect for Life icon as an example: Hover your arrow over the Icon click, and you are directly taken to the Respect for Life website.

The other hyperlinks that you can explore are the *Diocese of Richmond*, *Church of the Visitation*, *Hands Across Middlesex*, Give it a try.



## *The Catholic Church Of The Visitation*

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October 4, 2020

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 4, 2020

Most of today's readings are talking about vineyard in different ways but pointing to producing fruits.

The first reading, prophet Isaiah describes God's care of, and expectations for, His Chosen People. The Jewish people looked on themselves as the Vineyard of the Lord, God's Chosen People. God speaks to his people in great pain because they have proven to be so ungrateful. God's Chosen People failed to bear fruit, despite the blessings lavished upon them by a loving and forgiving God. Hence, God laments: "I expected My vineyard to yield good grapes. Why did it yield sour ones instead?"

We the Church are the chosen people today, we are the people of God, we are the vineyard of the Lord. This then invites us to ask ourselves two important questions. First: are we, as individuals, yielding an acceptable harvest? And second, as Church, are we helping to bring about God's Kingdom? Or do we fail sometimes like the vineyard Isaiah talks of in the first reading.

Jesus in the gospel centers his message on the tenants/the workers in the vineyard: it is they, who have failed, not the vineyard and not the owner. The owner did care for the vineyard: he planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it and built a tower. The vineyard itself did yield a good harvest that truly belonged to the owner, who was entitled to claim his part of the harvest. But the tenants grew greedy. They knew that, if the owner were to die without an heir, the law would give them the vineyard. So, they killed the heir. The parable is about stewardship, how are we faithful to what is entrusted to us. The gifts we have, and above all the life we are given by God. Do we produce fruits expected of us by God?

Our God is a God who trusts his workers. Just as the landowner gave the tenants a fully equipped vineyard in which to work and produce. God gives each one of us the possibilities of being fruitful and successful in all that we do. He provides us with opportunities and resources and trusts that we will make the most of these. Do we recognize how our lives are molded by God? Do we recognize the opportunities and resources that God has given us? Do we use the freedom God gave us in a fruitful way? And in all these do we trust God? And finally, do we respond responsibly to this call of stewardship?

Are we fruit-producers in the vineyard of our families, in our communities, in our Church and in the world at large? Do we live a life of sharing of blessings, sacrificing our time and talents in a humble and loving service to others? Does God and the things of God come first in my life? Am I aware of God's constant love and kindness towards me? Do I return God's love by the love I have for others? Do I show them the same kind of love, forgiveness, and compassion that God reaches out to me, again and again?

We have been entrusted with the vineyard of the Lord to produce fruit for our God. Transformed by the Lord, we are in the World as prophets and disciple, working in His vineyard to produce fruits of Love and kindness, of forgiveness, of respect, of justice and peace. We must fill the World with the presence of Christ.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

## TODAY'S MASS

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

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

Responsorial Psalm:

*The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.*

Second Reading:  
Philippians 4:6-9

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

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

Carter Williams, Jack Dougher, George Dembeck, Virginia Banks, Dave Marchant & Charles O'Shaughnessy

#### PARISHIONERS

Suzanne Sitterding, Veronica O'Leary, Michele Meanelly, Donna Lange, Jack & Louise Petralia, Tom Wash, Paul Pearce, Lynn & Jim Vajda, Min Tassone, John McCormack, 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, Aquela Parker, Khloe Nipper, Bernie Smith, Virginia Talker, Phil Melancon, Ray Kostelesky, 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: SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

Collection:	\$ 965
Second Collection: Retired Religious	\$ 138
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 27,397
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 28,710



There is no second collection today.

We signed the following principal checks this week:  
\$492 Collection Envelopes.



As an alternative to mailing us a weekly donation, you can visit our website [www.church-of-the-visitation.org](http://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

### HURRICANE DISASTER RELIEF

We are in the middle of the hurricane season and already have witnessed the devastations caused in the Gulf of Mexico. The wild-fires on the West Coast have added to the tragic loss of life and heart breaking experiences suffered by many. The Bishop asked that we consider a special collection for on going disaster relief efforts but because of the challenges of COVID-19, gave the option to the parishes of considering a gift from Parish Funds designated for charitable works in lieu of a special collection.

We chose to donate \$250 from our Parish Pence Fund instead of a special collection. The fund is robust at this time, and because of government restrictions against utility shutoffs and household evictions, has not experienced a significant drawdown in recent months.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Our parishioner Emily Filippi, Director of the Diocese Office of Christian Formation has concurrently accepted the temporary role of Acting Director, Office of Ethnic Ministries. We continue to be proud of Emily and her service to the Diocesan Faithful and COV.

### October is Pro-Life Month

"Every life is sacred." This is the basis for the Church's stand against abortion and any other form of taking a human life. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that: "Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God and it remains forever in a special relationship with the Creator, who is its sole end. God alone is the Lord of life from its beginning until its end: no one can under any circumstance claim for himself the right directly to destroy an innocent human being". (Cat. #2258)

It belongs therefore, to every person to defend human life, As Christians, we should be the conscious of the world, affirming that every human person is endowed with an inalienable dignity from the day that life is conceived to its natural end.

Every human being, even a child in the mother's womb has a right to life directly from God and not from the parents or from any society or authority. Hence there is no man, no human authority, no science, social, economic or moral 'indication' that can offer or produce a valid juridical title to a direct deliberate disposal of an innocent human life; that is to say, a disposal that aims at its destruction whether as an end or as a means to another end.

Therefore, the direct and intentional destruction of innocent human life from the moment of conception until natural death is always wrong and is not just one issue among many. Destruction of innocent human life must always be opposed.

All our struggles and outcry for human rights such as: the right to health, to work, to shelter, to family, and many more, will be false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right is not protected and respected.

May our loving God bless you all and keep you safe.

Fr. Gerry





## RESPECT LIFE KICK-OFF

All of October is Respect Life Month, and we will be standing together on October 4th to make a chain for life. Please join me after Mass next Sunday for a Life Prayer Chain and /or pray that the Holy Spirit will open hearts to respect all life.

Thank you-*Carol Smith*



*“Christians have a duty to be politically active, to register and vote, to lobby and educate candidates and elected officials, and to speak up about the issues that affect the common good. The Church does not set up the voting booths, but when we go into the voting booths, we don't cease to be members of the Church! If we don't shape public policy according to moral truths, why do we believe in moral truth at all?”* Fr. Frank Pavone, Director, Priests for Life

## SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS October 4, 2020

Lector: John Weidner & Ray Kostaskey

Community Leader: Kathy Kauffman

## VOTE, VOTE, VOTE AND DONATE TO THE PURCHASE OF BIBLES FOR THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES

Our own Becky Nunn is Ms. Virginia Senior World and she is asking you to VOTE for her in the People's Choice contest for contestants from the United States. Each vote is \$1 and the money will be used to buy Bibles for Third World Countries. Please Vote for Becky at the website below. Click to vote under her picture. She's currently in first place-let's keep her there. Thanks and multiple votes are deeply appreciated! . Just open this link [www.pageantplanet.com](http://www.pageantplanet.com) it will direct you to the pageant website page, scroll down until you see Becky's picture, hit the vote button and it will direct you to the next steps. If you have any questions give Becky a call.



## FLU VACCINATION-COMMUNITY SERVICE



Hands Across Middlesex (Cryer Center) will be providing this service, 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. October 13<sup>th</sup>-10:00AM to 4:00PM  
Cryer Center, 7485 General Puller Highway, Locust Hill.

## 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 7 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.**

*Our local provider of fresh flowers, parishioner Evelyn Scott, is out of flowers until next Spring. We thoroughly enjoyed her beautiful bouquets which added to the Altar and look forward to the spring for this reason, among many others.*

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

## CHURCH GROUND CLEAN UP

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 Kostaskey, Debby Harriman  
Kathy Kauffman & Jerry Suyes.*

*Team work makes dream work.*

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