

DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2020

As the culmination of our bicentennial celebration, the Diocese of Richmond will host its first Eucharistic Congress, which will begin on Friday, November 6, 2020 and ending on Saturday, November 7, 2020. Instead of gathering at the Greater Richmond Convention Center as planned, we will organize a Virtual Congress and a series of synchronized events in parishes. The Virtual congress will include keynote addresses, live interviews and commentary, a virtual Holy Hour, and live discussions which you are encouraged to participate in from your home.

A Eucharistic Congress is a gathering of clergy, religious, and laity to bear witness to the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. This event will bring together clergy, religious, and laity from parishes, schools, and campus ministries from across the Diocese of Richmond. Detailed information about this event and how to participate may be found at the link below: 2020.richmonddiocese.org/ec



ROSARY MINISTRY



Beginning Sunday, November 15th, we will commence a Rosary Service before Mass each Sunday starting at 8:30AM. Parishioner Cindy Jessee who successfully lead the ministry in her former parish will lead the Rosary Prayer. If you have any questions, contact her at 804-510-4688 or email cindyjessee6@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 11th	Contractors mobilization of building starts	
November 12th	Parish Council Meeting	7PM
November 15th	33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	9AM
November 22nd	Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe-9AM	
November 26th	Thanksgiving Day	9AM
November 29th	1st Sunday in Advent	9AM



DIRECTORY UPDATE

Pat Paul's telephone number
804-776-1473

TODAY'S ASSIGNMENTS

Lectors: John Weidner & Lynne Dreelin
Community Leader: Gary Richardson



The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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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



November 8, 2020
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Bicentennial Mass
Year A

Diocesan Bicentennial Special celebration, November 8, 2020

Communion and Mission

This Sunday as one family, faithful in the Diocese of Richmond are celebrating special Masses in honor of the Bicentennial Jubilee of our existence as a Catholic Church in Virginia. This is culmination of the Eucharistic congress which took place in the last two days (Friday and Saturday) and this time we are invited to reflect more on the main theme of the Bicentennial Jubilee which is: Communion and Mission.

“Shine like stars in the world, as you hold fast to the word of life” (Phil 2:15–16).

This text, which is the bicentennial motto, illuminates the two vital forces at work in each local Church (Diocese): communion and mission. Communion refers to the bonds of fellowship that unite members of the Church to God and to one another. Mission designates the purpose of the Church, which is to proclaim the Good News of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ to all people. Communion keeps the Church intact; mission enables the Church to grow.

The Church's mission is to carry out and continue the work of Jesus Christ on Earth. This means to: share the Word of God help those in need work for equality and Justice live as examples to all

The Mission of the Church (and of our Diocese), therefore, as people who are called to follow Christ and are sent by Christ, is to extend the Kingdom of God to all peoples.

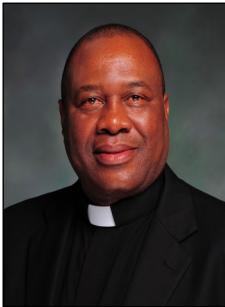
The sharing of the Gospel and the life of Christ started with the commissioning and sending out of the 12 apostles. By his command, Jesus sent his first disciples out to continue his work and share the Word of God with the whole of humanity. This work and tradition is continued today by the Church.

The Gospel values need to be lived out, which means helping people in need. Throughout the Gospels, Christ is seen with people who have sinned, people in pain and suffering and people who are marginalized in society.

As a Church and as the Diocese of Richmond celebrating two hundred years, it an opportune moment to look back and see how we have carried our this mission entrusted to us by Jesus and what could be done in future so that we continue to shine like stars in world by living an authentic Christian life as we hold fast to the word of life, the Gospel.

We can only do this by being in Communion. Communion with the Lord who is the source of all life. And in Communion with one another. For we cannot be successful in the Mission of the Church without the Lord and the efforts of each member of the Church.

The Eucharist is the source of all communion. It is the presence of Jesus among us. We are united with the Lord in a special way whenever we celebrate the Eucharist, He is present in all that we do because of the Eucharist. The Eucharist bonds each member of Church in a special and unbroken relationship' This bond with the Lord and with one another is the force behind the Mission of the Church. Communion makes us strong in all that we do as a Church. For when we grow in love for God through our union with Jesus, we also necessarily grow in love for our fellow brothers and sisters. Communion with the Lord produces **fruits** like a lessening of prejudices, of resentments, and an increase in love of neighbor, in compassion, in patience, in forgiving and in openness towards others.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

TODAY'S MASS

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading:

Wisdom 6:12-16 154A)

Responsorial Psalm:

*My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.*

Second Reading:

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel: Matthew 24:42a, 44

*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

William McLean, Gordon Tyrrell, Rose Lohr, Bobby Warren,
Alma Sitterding, Jim Hazel & Tom Farrell



PARISHIONERS

Toni Traynor, Sandi Delagrange, 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

Paul Krop, Andrea Borden, Patty Bowman, Pam Tibbs, Sherry Newton, Aqela Parker, Khloe Nipper, Bernie Smith, Virginia Talke, Phil Melancon, Ray Kostas, 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, L.C. 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: NOVEMBER 1, 2020

Collection: \$ 2,379
Second Collection:
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 39,056
Total Budget Projection: \$ 39,544



Our second collection today is for Archdiocese of Military Services.

We signed the following principal check this week:

\$187 Little Books for Advent and Lent.



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 NOVEMBER



3rd-Ken Gulick & Bob Chmiel, 11th-Steven Forte, 16th-Skip Kramb & Charlotte Johnson, 19th-Cathy Davenport, 21st-Kelly McMurtrie & Branch Meanley, 22nd-Lorie Messina, 24th-Dave Filippi, 27th-Laurie King & Lynne Dreelin, 28th-Bill Gray, 29th-Bill Brandl, 30th-Andrea Moore & Mary Foley.



ANNIVERSARY DATES FOR NOVEMBER

7th-Ken & Mary Ann Gulick, 29th-Aldo & Leisa DeCollibus

FATHERS THOUGHTS

With reverence and humility, I thank those of you who responded in a positive manner to my appeal for an increased offertory contribution during these trying times.

The trend in collections is up, and our goal as always is to meet our annual budget requirements, so we can continue to bring Christ into the world in various ministries and make an impact in the community.

We have begun the construction of a new worship area. Although the great majority of the cost is on hand, some of it will require a loan from the Diocese, an amount to be defined by our abilities to raise additional funds during construction. If you have some ideas on this topic, we urge you to pass them on to Debby Harriman and /or Lisa Forte.

To those parishioners who were not able to heed our previous appeal for support during the pledge campaign for whatever reason, we ask that you look into your heart again, reevaluate your former decision, help us financially, and as a minimum pray for the success of our project that began some 16 years ago and offers to further spread the Catholic word throughout the community.

Father Gerry

'If the Lord Does Not Build the House'

Dear Brothers and sisters,

Congratulations to all you; yes, this is the beginning, but it is an especially important step towards the fulfilment of the dream conceived long ago. It has taken long but we can now look towards the finish line!

As I reflect on the meaning of this event, The Breaking of the Ground for our New Church, two texts in the Bible come to my mind:

The first is from Psalm 127. The first verse of this Psalm states: "If the Lord does not build the house, in vain do its builders labor..." We recognize the efforts of each one of you; you have prayed for this project; you have contributed financially and with ideas, others have contributed with their expertise. But we do not hesitate to say that all this work is useless if God is not beside us. So, put this project in your prayers each day. Ask the Lord to guide us to its completion.

The second text is from one of Jesus parables. In the Gospel according to Luke Jesus says:

"For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? "Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'" (Lk. 14: 28-30)

Many of you have made sacrifices to contribute to the building of our new worship area. It is because of your generous hearts that we are where we are today. May the Lord reward you for such great generosity. But this is not the time to relent; no, it's the time to go that extra mile, to push to the finish, otherwise, some might say: 'they began to build but were unable to finish'. I have trust in the Lord, and I have trust in each one of you that this project will be completed in time.

May the Lord, who has begun this wonderful work, he himself guide it to its glorious completion.





ANGEL TREE

With Thanksgiving a few weeks away, it's time to begin thinking of our Angel Tree Project which benefits the children of inmates of the Saluda Correctional Center at Christmas Time. Because of the Pandemic and the absence of some parishioners at Mass, we will be posting the list of children needing gifts via email and our website. The list should be ready about the middle of November and when posted you will need to call Mary Sychterz to register your choice. The instructions for calling Mary will be included at that time.

WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?

As Catholics we rejoice with faith in the resurrection. Yet we also know the passage from life to death can be stressful on those who survive us. You can ease some of that stress by acting now to put your estate plan in order. Who will be executor of your estate? Who will decide how your personal treasures are distributed? In addition to their own grief, can you imagine your loved ones struggling to find life insurance papers, bank accounts and other vital documents?



Potential, Purpose, Promise

A will also provides an excellent opportunity to remember our congregation. A gift to the church through your will serves as a testament to your heirs of your faith in God and the resurrection. It provides you with one last opportunity to exemplify what it means to be a good steward, providing for others as God has provided for you during your lifetime. What a blessing you can be to future generations!



PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

We are pleased to announce that

Kevin Hayes, Kathy Swinehart, & Mary Sychterz

were elected to the Parish Council. We thank the 51 parishioners that cast ballots and the nine other parishioners who chose to run for election.

Kevin, Kathy, and Mary will begin their service to the church in January.

NOVEMBER MEMORIALS

Once again this year, we are honoring our relatives who have passed away by creating a Memorial Table for the pictures of loved ones whom you wish to honor. Please bring in a picture (s) and place it on the table located next to the altar.

Because of the restrictions on the use of handouts, we will not distribute purple slips on which you previously placed the names of persons you honored. As an alternative you can send us an email or call us with the names and we will do that for you.



CHURCH INFORMATION

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

Church attendance was 74 this past Sunday with 4 guests.

This coming week the Mass is for parishioners in Group A-K. The important thing to remember is to notify the office if you 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. All are welcome!

BREAKING GOOD NEWS

After our many trips to the Diocesan Building and Renovation Commission, and upon its recommendation, the Bishop signed the contract to move ahead with the construction of a new worship area. In a pre-construction meeting with the General Contractor, we were informed that on-site mobilization of equipment will occur next week. The preliminary schedule for church completion is early next Sept.



Our contractors:
Will, Freddie & David



"Ground breaking"



"All Saints Day Mass"