



'SHARE THE LOVE' COAT DRIVE

Hands Across Middlesex and Christ Church have asked us to join them in a coat drive during January. The drive looks to collect clean, used coats in good condition for adults, teens, and children. If you have any to donate, we will have a container for your use in the vicinity of the door leading to the kitchen.

NEW WORSHIP AREA

Site preparation has begun and the asphalt where the church will stand has been removed and replaced with dirt and sand. *The footers were put in place two weeks ago, and the structural steel was completed this week.*



Handicapped parking is now available in front of the fountain. The church entrance and exit is now exclusively through the alcove doors.

CHRISTMAS DONATION

Annually, some of our community and summer visitor friends give us donations at Christmas. We understandably received fewer this year, but one of our local businesses blessed us again with their generosity, even though our purchases were considerably less. Deltaville Market again contributed \$500 to the parish in a noble act of charity. We will officially thank them, but if you market there, please take the time to thank them personally.

FATHER JOHN BODDIE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP/GRANT FUND

Attached to the Bulletin is an in-depth summary and discussion of our scholarship fund, which has been assumed by the parish for administrative purpose. This means we determine the recipients and the amount of grant money each person receives.

Detailed instructions are contained in the attachment to include the priorities for monetary distribution. Our thanks to Jerry Suyes for shepherding the transition of the program, and to Tom Hawksworth for assuming the Chairmanship of the Grant Committee.

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January 10, 2020
The Baptism of the Lord
Year B

The Baptism of the Lord, January 10, 2021

The Baptism of the Lord we celebrate today, is the first public revelation of all the Three Persons in the Holy Trinity, and the official revelation of Jesus as the Son of God to the world by God the Father. This event of baptism marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. He begins his public life in the humility of John's baptism, in the guise of a humble servant. A servant who manifests his power by doing good and healing all those oppressed by the society.

The baptism by John was an especially important event in the life of Jesus in many ways: First, it was a moment of identification with His mission and the with the people He was sent to save, the sinners. Sinless, Jesus received the baptism of repentance to identify himself with his people, who realized for the first time that they were sinners and that they have change. By renouncing their old ways.

Second, it was a moment of confirmation of His identity, that He is the Son of God and His mission was to preach the Good News of God's love and salvation. God the Father's words, "*You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.*"

The third important moment is when Jesus is equipped with the power to carry out His mission. The Holy Spirit descended on him in the form of dove, giving him the power of preaching and healing.

From that moment, after that event of being baptized by John, Jesus never looks back. He begins his public ministry, proclaiming the Good News by his words, and actions.

The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our own identity. It reminds us of who we are and Whose we are. By Baptism, we become sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of his Church, heirs of Heaven, and temples of the Holy Spirit. We are invited to experience the presence of God within us, to acknowledge our own dignity as God's children, and to appreciate the Divine Presence in others by honoring them, loving them, and serving them in all humility. We are reminded today, to live as the children of God in thought, word and action as Jesus did.

Brothers and sisters today is the day to thank God for the graces we have received in Baptism, to renew our Baptismal promises and to be ready to proclaim to all people the Good News, by our transparent Christian lives of love, mercy, service, and forgiveness.

The people who went to John for baptism wanted to right the wrongs in their lives and in the society at large. Jesus joined them. Therefore, we as His followers, the baptized, have a choice to make: do we have the courage and the humility to right the wrongs in us and in our World of today by following our Lord? Let us follow the Lord, choosing his way, so that we may be his instruments at work in changing our lives and the world.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11

Responsorial Psalm:

You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Second Reading:

1 John 5:1-9

Gospel: Mark 1:7-11

Father suggests you say the Prayer for Spiritual Communion during communion →

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

Christine Graham, John Regan, Marie Suyes, Paul Cecchini & Mathew Moore



PARISHIONERS

Lois & Skip Kramb, Marianne Krop, Tom Foley, Toni Traynor, Suzanne Sitterding, Veronica O'Leary, Michele Meanelly, 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, Peggy Williams, Karen Dame, Joe Nolte, Mike Lokie, Steve Kirsch, Marilynn 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, Carol Smith, Pat & Lee Reamy, Janine Jaboulay, Anne Paparella, Carole McPherson, Jeanne Lessner, Colin Walsh.

FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Lynn Messina, Erik Meijer, Dave Saunders, Dave Hersh, Mike Shea, Krop Family, Andrea Bordgen, Jennifer Sanders, Patty Bowman, Pam Tibbs, Sherry Newton, Aquela Parker, Khloe Nipper, Bernie Smith, Virginia Talke, Phil Melancon, Ray Kostaskey, Doris Melancon, Dominick Perry, Kimberly Lavinder, 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, Joseph Gascoigne, John Vajda, Sandy Alter, Andy & Iris Hetzer.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Peg Meushaw, Dave Gunn, Chuck Taylor, 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: JANUARY 3, 2020

Collection:	\$ 2,145
Second Collection: Parish Pence	\$ 187
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 60,390
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 55,833



There is no second collection today.

We signed the following principal checks this week:

\$122 Maintenance supplies.



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 JANUARY

1st-Joe Nolte & Carol McCormack, 2nd-Evelyn Scott, Barbara Rigney & Michelle Leitch, 3rd-Bob Cerullo, 5th-Mike Borzelleca & Lorraine Kirsch, 7th-Betty Johnson, 13th-Benton Miller, 16th-Christine Hayes, 19th-James Moncure, 20th-Debby Harriman, 21st-Chuck Walsh, 22nd-Clara Suyes, Donna Brandl, Kenneth Gulick & Don Tyrrell, 27th-John McCormack & Jeanne Lessner, 29th-Mike Dreelin, 31st-Jack King & Charlie Costello.



ANNIVERSARY DATES FOR JANUARY

5th-Charles & Louise Hartz, 24th-Jack & Laurie King.

TAX STATEMENTS



If you wish a statement of your past year's donations for tax purposed, please place your name on the list outside of the office. You may also email or call the office with your request. If you signed up last week your statements are ready for pick up.

WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?

A retirement account, such as an IRA, 401(k), or 403 (b), often comprises a large portion of a person's wealth. Yet did you know they are the most heavily taxed-and a perfect instrument for making a charitable gift at death?



Potential, Purpose, Promise

Many of our parishioners withdraw an IRA distribution each year. Did you know that you can make a direct donation from your traditional IRA to any charity or you church and not incur taxes on this distribution? A distribution can be divided between several charities, your church or an eligible 501(c) organization. An IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) must be made directly to the charitable organization. If you are interested in more information please contact your investment company or broker and ask about a QCD.

New Year Message- January 2021

Today we celebrate the beginning of a new year, and the Church invites us to celebrate as well, the Feast of Mary Mother of God. First, I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Peaceful New Year! I pray that the Lord Jesus and His Mother Mary may enrich your lives during the New Year with an abundance of blessings and may you succeed in all that you plan to do in the new year. Today's Feast of Mary, the Mother of God is a very appropriate way to begin a new year, reminding us to rely on the powerful intercession of our Heavenly Mother. The Church also observes World Day of Peace on this day and invites us to pray especially for lasting peace in the world throughout the New Year.

Today's Gospel describes how the shepherds spread to all their neighbors the Good News surrounding the birth of Jesus which the angel had revealed to them, and how Mary treasured "all these things" in her heart. Like the Shepherds, we are invited to spread the Good News Jesus brings to all our friends and neighbors. Like Mary, let us be good listeners this year, listening to what the Lord is calling to do. Let us use every opportunity God will give us to make this year peaceful and fruitful for all God's people.

Let us make the New Year meaningful by dreaming daily of something noble to do and actually doing it. Let us live every day of the New Year by offering ourselves in service of God and our brothers and sisters. May we always be grateful to God for the gifts and opportunity He gives us each day.

Let me finish by expressing my gratitude to all of you. You have stood firm with us during this past year which has been a trying and difficult one. You have supported your Church financially, and whenever we called upon you to do something in service to your fellow parishioners, many of you responded with a generous heart. Yes, the year has been a challenging one, but your positive response and attitude during these times is a clear sign of better days to come. May the Lord continue to bless and keep you safe through the new year we begin today.

We pray that this year will be different, that the pandemic will be controlled by the vaccines which are now being administered, and that soon a cure will be found. It is my wish and prayer that sooner than later we will be back together filling our Churches and praising God as we used to do.

Let this prayer accompany you throughout the New Year:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord let His face shine upon you.
May He be gracious to you.
May the Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace.

Happy New year to you all!

Fr. Gerry



CHURCH INFORMATION

Our hours for prayer when the church is open are Wednesday and Thursday 9AM-12:00. Or call the office if you need assistance.

*Our Rosary Ministry is every Sunday starting at 8:30am. All are welcome!

Church attendance last weekend was 59.

ALL PARISHIONERS

**are invited to attend church irrespective of the alphabet.
All COVID protocols will still apply.**

**We continue to offer daily Mass on Wednesday and Thursday
@9AM for anyone who desires to attend. All are welcome!**

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

MASS ATTENDANCE CHANGE

After carefully analyzing our attendance figures, we believe we can safely forego our alphabet restrictions and open all Masses to all Parishioners commencing in January. Our stated capacity following all COVID-19 protocols is 106, and we have rarely reached half of that figure. This is the basic reason for lifting alphabet restrictions. We will continue to monitor attendance and immediately return to the former system, if necessary.

UPDATE YOUR COV INFORMATION

Please remember to keep the office informed of address, family, email, and phone number changes.

If any of these items has changed in the last few months, please inform us, and if you are doubtful about telling us about a change that occurred last year, give us a call to verify if we have the right information.

Or if you are not seeing your name in the *Birthdays/Anniversary* list and would like to—that would be an update as well.

CHRISTMAS SEASON CLEANUP

The Christmas season officially ends this Sunday. Please remain after Mass to help us prepare the church for Ordinary Time. Thank You.

E-GIVING CHANGES

The Richmond Diocese has asked all parishes to complete a software transition that will enable COV parishioners to donate directly to their parish in 2021 and beyond. COV has installed and completed the necessary steps for you to donate starting **Jan. 3rd 2021**. One time gifts allow 1 business day to withdraw from your account. Recurring gift withdrawals occur on the date selected by you.

Transferring your donations to COV software should be very similar to the diocesan software. However, you will need to enter your checking or credit card information again. You can still make one-time gifts each month or recurring donations monthly, bi-weekly, weekly. Special collections are also listed. Currently our system is set up for 3 months Jan/Feb/Mar.

We appreciate your continued support to your church especially during these challenging times. We hope that the convenience of making donations on-line will be appreciated by many of our parishioners.

E-GIVING INSTRUCTIONS

Go to website: www.church-of-the-visitation.org or use hyperlink in bulletin. Select red button “donate” in upper right corner to go to “Give Now” form. If you are donating a one-time donation you do not need to set up an account. If you want to make a recurring donation each month you must log into your account AFTER your 1st donation.

One Time gift without an account

Give Now Form: Check the funds you wish to donate to from list: example, Sunday by date, New Worship Area, Special Collections.

Enter the amount in each fund

Fill in credit card or checking account information

Total amount of donation will be sub-totaled at bottom of form

Click donate button at bottom of form

An e-mail will be sent to confirm your donation.

Once your donation is completed you may want to register for an account to make your donation to funds recurring.

Needed: e-mail address, password

COV envelope number

Recurring gift with an account

Give Now Form: Click on “Sign In” top of form

Select funds & enter amount

Mark box for recurring donation

Select banking information you have on file

Click donate button at bottom of form

An email will be sent to confirm your donation.

Questions: Please call Debby Harriman 776-0078 or office 758-5160.