



'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 three weeks ago, and the structural steel was completed last week.*



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

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NEW CHURCH IMPORTANT INFORMATION

As we start a new year, we are very blessed that our new construction is taking shape for all to see. Now we enter the third phase of fund raising for the building program by offering all an opportunity to make memorial contributions. Participants will be able to contribute for a particular feature or furnishing in the new building in memory or honor of someone. The names of the donors, items, and memorialized person (s) will be inscribed on a plaque displayed near the entrance to the Nave. A card with a list of items offered, requested donation amounts, and a commitment form will be distributed after Mass on **Sunday, January 31**. The card will also be linked to the COV website at that time. To make a memorial donation you must contact the church office by phone or in person on **Tuesday, February 2**. All items are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. We want all to have an equal chance to participate. If an item is already spoken for, please consider allowing us to use your donation towards another item.

Please call the office with questions.

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January 17, 2021

*Today we celebrate the Conclusion of the
Bicentennial Jubilee of Our Diocese, and
the Mass will be in Honor of
"The Blessed Virgin Mary
Mother of the Church."*

The Conclusion of Diocesan Bicentennial Celebrations Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of the Church January 17, 2021

Today we conclude the year long celebrations of The Bicentennial Jubilee of our Diocese. The celebrations were scaled down due to COVID-19 pandemic, nevertheless, this time has been a time of gratitude to the Lord who has blessed this Diocese for the last two hundred years with a strong faith, expressed in the many activities carried out in our Parishes throughout the Diocese.

Now as we look towards the future, we are encouraged with the foundations already built, to continue to be a strong Catholic Community which will spread the Good news of the Gospel to all corners of this vast Diocese and beyond.

Today we are invited by our Bishop to celebrate this conclusion of our Bicentennial Jubilee by honoring The Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of the Church. The title "Mother of the Church" (Mater Ecclesiae) was applied to the mother of Jesus by Pope Paul VI in November 1964 at the close of the Second Vatican Council. The title was first used in the 4th century by Saint Ambrose of Milan and more recently the title was favored by Pope John Paul II and then incorporated into the Catechism of the Catholic Church. In March 2018, Pope Francis inserted into the Roman Calendar the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, to be celebrated each year on the Monday after Pentecost.

It is because of Mary being at the heart of our Christian faith that she honored with this title of Mother of the Church. Yes, she is the mother of Jesus, but if you reflect, and be guided according to what we read in the scriptures, we see how she was involved in every event during the time of Jesus and after his death and resurrection.

She was there at his crucifixion, and her maternal role towards Christ's faithful is founded specifically on the words spoken by Jesus from the cross to the Beloved Disciple, who represents all future disciples, the church. We have read in the Gospel that: When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." Therefore, Jesus himself place her as the mother of the Church, represented here by the beloved disciple. In her role as Mother of the Church, Mary embraces each and every one in the Church, and embraces each and every one through the Church.

Again, we see Mary together with all the apostles and disciples praying in the upper room, awaiting the gift of the Holy Spirit. At Pentecost, Mary's maternal presence was right there at the birth of the Church, thus, we rightly honor her as mother of the Church. Brothers and sister, as we conclude our Bicentennial celebrations we look to the future with hope and we are resolved to carry out our mission of living the Christian way of life and spreading it to all those whom we encounter. Mary our mother will go with us, sharing our joys and hopes, helping us in all the challenges of our daily life. She will always open her arms to us her sons and daughters with tender love, to give us comfort and guidance.

May Mary, the mother of the Church, accompany the Diocese of Richmond as we strive to pass on the Good News of Jesus her son to future generations.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: Genesis 3:9-15, 20

Responsorial Psalm:

*Glorious things are told of you,
O city of God*

Second Reading:

Acts of the Apostles 1:12-14

Gospel: John 19:25-34

*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



Tom Mangrum, Bob O'Keefe & Paul Krop

PARISHIONERS

Lois & Skip Kramb, Marianne Krop, Tom Foley, Toni Traynor, Suzanne Sitterding, Veronica O'Leary, Michele Meanely, 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, Marilyne 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

Nikki Ryan, 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, Ashley 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 10, 2021

Collection: \$ 1,912
Second Collection:
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 62,302
Total Budget Projection: \$ 57,404



Our second collection today is Respect for Life.

We signed the following principal checks this week:

\$1,361 Pastor and Rectory Expenses for December; \$200 Septic System Repair.



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.

LOOKING AHEAD

As the new worship area slowly becomes a reality, we eagerly await its completion and now face the tasks ahead in financing it.

When combined with Building Funds assets on hand, our pledge campaign was successful enough to gain Diocesan approval to move forward with the project and authorize a \$300K loan when needed to pay construction costs. Our goal this year, as construction continues, is to raise as much money as possible to pay for any cost overruns and reduce the final loan amount.

Our Fund-Raising Committee is engaged in planning fund raising events and will soon publish a list of items that may be purchased as a memorial by parishioners interested in doing so, but immediately we will begin a monthly special collection for the new worship area. Our parish has always responded to special need, and financing the construction of our new worship area is one of them.

I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to thank you for your prayers, your messages of support, and your participation in Masses, whether in person or by livestreaming. It is meaningful to me and our parish. I also want to thank all of you who continue to support us financially. Your generosity truly knows no bounds. If your circumstances permit. I encourage all of you to seriously consider participating in all of our new worship area fund raising events this coming year.

SOME THOUGHTS

We are closing in on ten months of life within a Pandemic, and the loyalty and work commitment of several parishioners continue to set an impressive example for all.

Mike Dreelin, Andrea Moore, Lynne Richardson, and our core group of ushers deserve the utmost thanks for an unsurpassed, devotion to duty. Mike's ingenuity and technical expertise, Andrea's welcome smile and warmth and the ushers' concern for the health and welfare of others make the Mass smooth for all coming through the door and at home. Tom Shoemaker designed the seating scheme and processes for entering and exiting and has guided a competent group of ushers (Al Langer, Tom Hawksworth, Don Delagrance, and Bill Brandl) through the forest of Covid-19 protocols. Lynne has steadfastly kept in contact with individual parishioners, endlessly checking on their welfare and handling their concerns.

We are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel, and these persons have faithfully carried us to this point in the journey to safety and wellbeing.



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 60.

**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.

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.

WHITTMAN SENDS LETTER TO USPS

*Mr. Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
Washington, D.C.*

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy:

I am writing to you to express my concern over the disruption of mail flow in Virginia's First Congressional District. Recently, I have heard from a number of constituents and local elected officials who have seen delays in mail services, particularly in the areas of the Middle Peninsula, Fredericksburg, Hanover, Williamsburg, and the Northern Neck and/or serviced by the United States Postal Service (USPS)

Sandston processing office. I have constituents who rely on the USPS to deliver their medications on time, as well as their business mail.

I would appreciate you addressing this matter for the constituents in my district and for the USPS to make the necessary changes to ensure this does not continue to occur. I look forward to continuing to work together to address these and other critical issues facing our nation.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to working with you to ensure this problem gets resolved.

Sincerely,



REGRETS

We were notified last week by a family member that former parishioner Bob O'Keefe passed away from natural causes on January 3rd. Bob joined the parish in 1989 and approximately 10 years ago moved to a Senior Livening Quarters at Fort Monroe.

The services will occur in the spring at an unannounced date.

Our prayers are with the family.

DONATIONS NEEDED

My daughter-in-law is a social worker who gets housing for homeless vets. When they get them a home, they make sure that they have a bed. The guild I belong to makes quilts for them but Alex said that they also really need sheets (mostly double and twin sized) and towels. If anyone has extras at home, I would love to get them to Alex to help those who have served our country at great cost to themselves.

Thanks Eileen O'Brien

You may leave any donations at the office during working hours or on Sundays.