



NEW WORSHIP AREA

*The following things were accomplished this week.
Earth Work, Grading,
R/I under slab and concrete preparation.
Still on schedule to be completed
in September 2021.*



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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3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 24, 2021

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

January 24, 2021

The Gospel passages we read immediately after the Christmas Season; all describe how Jesus began his public ministry of proclaiming the Good News of God's Kingdom. Unlike any of other preachers before him, who often focused too much on what was wrong in the society without giving solutions, Jesus proposed concrete solutions which can help us achieve a better life, a life pleasing to God.

Jesus cries out in the Gospel of today: "This is the time of fulfillment. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel". With these words Jesus is telling us that a better world is within our reach; it is within our grasp. "The reign of God is at hand". But a better world begins when we begin to change our own personal life. 'Repent', Jesus tells us, meaning: Reform your lives and live according to the Gospel.

Jesus was born into and lived in a troubled world, a world that was in many aspects worse than the one in which we live today. There was no Justice; tyrants lorded it over everyone; poor people were neglected and oppressed by those in authority. The Romans rulers themselves lived a life quite different from that of the people they were intended to govern, to care for. People longed for a new beginning, a change of direction.

Into all of this God sent Jesus Christ to help these people and us, have the light of a new vision, to give us the faith, the hope, the love, and the courage to make our world become everything God dreamed it could be when He created it in the first place. Jesus resolved to accomplish that purpose by calling each individual to repentance, to a change of life. The mission of Jesus was, first of all, to make us responsible, and to make us responsible for ourselves first. My first responsibility is to make something good and decent out of me. Life is God's gift to me. What I do with it is my gift to God. It is also my gift to those around me.

For how can I expect a better world unless I first expect a better me? Society is the sum total of its individual parts. I can deal with the moral failures of others when I know how to deal with the moral failures within my own self. I can help others become better persons when I first learn how to make myself a better person. This is the real meaning of Jesus' message today. He is challenging us to "repent and believe in the Gospel." Meaning: change your mind or direction of your life and set new priorities. *Believing* in the Gospel demands a resolution to take Jesus' words seriously, to translate them into actions of real change.

All of us dream of a peaceful, loving, just society. But to achieve this it has to start with each individual. This is what Jesus is calling to do to take up our responsibilities, change our lives in order to change our Society. He challenges us to live better lives, to be good people who follow God's law, so that we can change the world around us.

The call of Jesus in today's Gospel account, is not a call issued to few Jewish men over 2,000 years ago during Jesus' time. It is an insistent call, and urgent call, a demanding call that comes down to us, to you and me here and now, to you today, who have been called by God through baptism, it is call to us who hear the words of Jesus on this day, to leave this church building on a mission. We are to leave here as those who are sent, sent to change the world by first changing our own lives.

For the simple truth is that when you do in fact change your life, you will have begun to change the whole world. Therefore, "Repent and believe the Gospel" Change your life and live according to the laws of God and his Church.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Responsorial Psalm:

Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

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



Lewis Forte, Art Smith & Walter Warren

PARISHIONERS

Lois & Skip Krumb, Marianne Krop, Tom Foley, Toni & Nikki 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, 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

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, 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 17, 2021

Collection:	\$ 2,356
Second Collection: Respect for Life	\$ 242
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 64,658
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 58,975



Our second collection today is for the New Worship Area.

We signed the following principal checks this week: \$1371 Diocesan Assessments.



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 purposes, 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.

'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.

WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?

There are so many legacies from which we draw. Parents oftentimes leave us with a powerful set of values and a strong legacy of service and acceptance of others. Even our faith creates in us a legacy of strong biblical knowledge and curiosity and humility.



Potential, Purpose, Promise

As we focus on all the blessings left us by others, by our church and by our life experiences, we must ask ourselves: What legacy will I leave? Hopefully this legacy will include the hope of a strong faith, the enduring power of nonjudgmental love, and perhaps even the desire to make a difference in the world.

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 Delagrang, 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 72.

**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!



ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the Altar today were donated by
Steve and Lisa Forte in honor of Lewis Forte.

We have a new address for former parishioners Tom and Mary Virginia Bliley. Commencing the last week in January they can be reached at:
St. Marys Woods, Unit 319
1257 Marywood Lane, Richmond, VA 23229

FDS FUNDRAISER

Scots BBQ Dinner for Four, ticket is \$30
Sponsored by the Church of Francis de Sales.

Deadline to order on line at: churchoffrancisdesales.org is no later than 12 noon on Friday, January 29, 2021. Pickup will be in the church circle parking lot from 3-6pm., Wednesday, February 3, 2021. Visit the FdS

website and look for Super Bowl BBQ it will take you straight to the information needed to order. <https://www.churchoffrancisdesales.org>

SUPER BOWL



FATHER JOHN BODDIE MEMORIAL

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. Please take time to read the Bulletin attachment describing the Grant and the application process.

WITTMAN 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 a week ago 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.

TODAY'S ASSIGNMENTS

LECTORS ASSIGNMENTS: Eileen O'Brien & Tom Dorman

COMMUNITY LEADER: Debby Harriman