

## NEW WORSHIP AREA UPDATE

*Still on schedule to be completed September 2021*



They are working on miscellaneous wood framing and blocking, exterior doors, windows, HVAC & return ducting systems and getting the building dried in. Electrical is starting as well.

## *The Catholic Church Of The Visitation*

8462 General Puller Highway/P.O. Box 38  
Topping, Virginia 23169 Phone: 804-758-5160  
E-Mail: [churchofthevisitation@va.metrocast.net](mailto:churchofthevisitation@va.metrocast.net)  
Website: [www.church-of-the-visitation.org](http://www.church-of-the-visitation.org)  
Pastor: Gerald Kaggwa Rectory: 804-286-9271



*3rd Sunday of Easter*

*April 18, 2021 Year B*

Third Sunday of Easter April 18, 2021

*“You are witnesses of these things.”*

The common theme of today’s readings is the challenge to adjust our lives to the living presence of the risen Lord as we grow daily in awareness of our call as Christians. This awareness should strengthen our hope in His promises, bring us to true discipleship and the renewal of our lives, and lead us to bear witness to Christ by our lives and works of charity. We are reminded of the purpose of the suffering, death, and Resurrection of Jesus, that it was for our salvation. Jesus in the Gospel puts it upon us all to bring this Good News to all people: “You are witnesses of these things.” He called His disciples to be witnesses. He calls us to be His witnesses.

In the first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter forcefully shows how the messianic prophecies have been fulfilled in the crucified and risen Jesus and challenges the Jews and all those listening to turn towards God so that they may receive salvation through Jesus Christ. In the Gospel, Jesus explains how the prophecies have been fulfilled in him. “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the Prophets and Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he commissions them to bear witness to him and to continue His mission throughout the World.

Jesus needs us as witnesses to continue his mission. Jesus needs Spirit-filled followers to be his eyes, ears, hands, and feet, to bear witness to his love, mercy, and forgiveness by our interactions with our brother and sisters. Our daily lives are meant to serve as a means for us to experience and share the risen Lord with others.

We are called to proclaim that Jesus Christ came, suffered, died and rose from the dead so that we could have a share in His eternal life. The world needs to hear our testimony. Jesus came for truth, justice, love, forgiveness. We are witnesses to His message, it is our obligation therefore, to live and promote love, justice, truth, forgiveness, and peace.

Just as the disciples experienced the risen Lord within themselves and in their community, let us learn to recognize the presence of Jesus in our own lives, our homes, in our friends and in all those we meet in different places like, hospitals, workplaces, and schools. Jesus wants us to be a community which shares and cares, a community which knows how to recognize Jesus in the poor, the marginalized, the sick, in everyone. We have to be witnesses of his salvific life to all.

The Risen Christ told his disciples to begin their preaching of the Good News, the offer of his peace and forgiveness, beginning with those living in Jerusalem, then to those in the towns and countryside and finally to all the world. He invites us to realize that the place to seek for peace is first of all at the center of our own lives, then in our immediate personal world, and then beyond. We make our impact where we can, in our everyday ordinary activities and surroundings. God continues to appear in our daily life in very ordinary ways. God wants to open our eyes to the presence of the risen Christ in the ordinary happenings of life. It is in the small things, the everyday details of life, the moments of caring and sharing when we reach out to others that we show that Christ is risen among us. The Risen Christ is not apart from the world. He is in our midst. We are witnesses of this ever presence of the Risen Lord.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

## TODAY'S MASS

First Reading:

*Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15,17-19*

Responsorial Psalm:

*Lord, let your face shine on us.*

Second Reading:

*1 John 2:1-5a*

Gospel: *Luke 24:35-48*

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



*Elaine Wallenburg, Joe Evans, Scott Cronacher & Bruno Tassone*

### PARISHIONERS

Peggy Williams, Lois & Skip Kramb, 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, 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, Carol Smith, Pat & Lee Reamy, Janine Jaboulay, Anne Paparella, Carole McPherson, Colin Walsh.

### FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Jillian Messina, Joseph J. Los, Karen Tatum, Lynn Messina, Dave Hersh, Mike Shea, Krop Family, Pam Tibbs, Sherry Newton, Aqela 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, Colleen O'Rollins, Michael Reamy, Natash Walsh, Ellen DeMaurez, Michele MacFarland, LC Warren, John Vajda, Sandy Alter, Andy & Iris Hetzer.

### FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Gene Tunney Walker, Joe McInerney, The Butt Family, Greg Chambers, Bristow Family, Peg Meushaw, Dave Gunn, Chuck Taylor, Paula Harcum, Cathy Kirkland, Steve Sohles, Remy Maine Miller, Jessie Debusk, Ryan & Jeanne Norris, Donna Newcomb, Vickie Hogge, Maria Franzoni, Pumpkin Brownley, Rita Blommel, Brenda Knupp, Ashely Scott & family, Steve Smith, Susie Loustaunau, Elizabeth Panzer, Linda Cryer, Tyra Freed, Valerie McCarthy, 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: April 11, 2021**

Collection: \$ 2,165  
Second Collection: New Worship Area \$ 185  
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 89,466  
Total Budget Projection: \$ 83,270  
Our second collection today is for the St. Noa School.



We signed the following principal check this week: \$1,371 Diocesan Assessments.

**BIRTHDAY'S FOR APRIL**



1st-Carole McPherson & Suzanne Sitterding, 3rd-Bob O'Leary, 4th-Blaise Katsuki, Sally Johnson, Marianne Krop & Fritz Heunemann, 5th-Jim Vajda, 6th-Ray Kostas, 8th-Pat Reamy, 10th-Anne Dunn, 12th-Nancy Wirth & Tracy Pausic, 13th-Carol Smith, 17th-Margaret Hock, 23rd-Kaylee Kirsch & Tom Johnson, 28th-Louise Hartz.



**ANNIVERSARY DATES FOR APRIL**

3rd-Brendan & Eileen O'Brien, 9th-Tom & Sharon Hawksorth,  
10th-Bill & Linda Gray, 17th-Mike & Noelle Harvey.

**PERSONAL CHALLENGE PARTICIPANTS**

For those who participated in "The Lenten Personal Challenge", now is the time to turn in your envelopes or coins. You may pick up an envelope marked "Personal Challenge" on the table in the entry way, or mark a plain envelope as "Personal Challenge". Please place the envelope in the collection basket by the door or place it in the box on the wall outside the office door. You may also mail it in, just make sure that it is marked "Personal Challenge". For coins, drop them in the glass container that is placed by the collection basket before Mass.

If you would like to share your experiences, drop a note in the envelope. We would love to hear from you and how you were challenged by your Challenge.

If you have any questions contact Mary Sychterz at 804-815-0353.

In summary, our Lenten and Easter season fundraising efforts (Soup & Stations, BBQ, Personal Challenge, and the Coin Jar) have netted \$2,436 to date. *Thank you to all who have participated in these events.*

**ADDRESS CHANGES**



Lynne & Jim Vajda  
108 Jagged Landing  
Williamsburg, VA  
23188



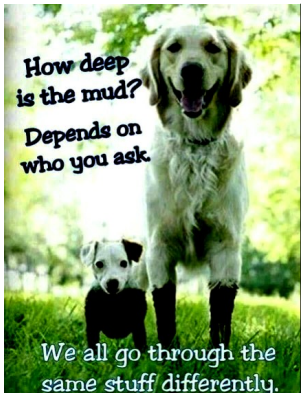
**PEWS**

Pews with kneelers will adorn the nave of our new worship area.

The wood is red oak of color burnt sugar.

Pictured here are photos of the pews' sample.

After Mass, it will be under the alcove for you to view and try out.



Fill in the blank.  
Question: Who killed Goliath?  
Answer : COVID X David  
*See me after class!  
MIS M.*

**TODAY'S ASSIGNMENTS**

Lectors: Louise Petralia & Ray Kostas

Community Leader: Kevin Hayes

## CHURCH INFORMATION

Since we began celebrating Mass for all parishioners exclusive of alphabet restrictions, our attendance weekly has been about 70-75 persons. Easter Sunday attendance was 92.

We can handle that many persons seating-wise, but accounting for attendees has become difficult because so many parishioners are arriving minutes before Mass.

*Please consider arriving for Mass as early as 15 minutes before hand to ease the accountability issue.*

*At the same time that we ask you to arrive earlier, we would also ask that you minimize the socializing (a dichotomy-come early and don't talk) so we can ascertain who is seating where and reduce the risk of transmitting any infections.*

## WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?

How long has it been since you updated your will? Does it still express your wishes? Does it leave a gift to your church to carry on its ministry after your death?

You can share your faith beyond your lifetime by careful estate planning which includes your church in your will. During your lifetime you will have the joy of knowing that whatever you do not use in this life will continue in ministry through your church after your death.

When your estate planning documents are prepared by your attorney, you can include your church as the final beneficiary to receive any benefits that remain after other beneficiaries are remembered.



Potential, Purpose, Promise

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION

### *Where will the confessional be?*

The confessional will be located in the nave (seating area) on the right as you enter. It is a separate room located in front of Father's vesting room. The penitent will enter his/her side from the nave and the priest will enter his side from the vesting room.

## HELPING WITH EASTER

Many thanks to Georgia Beville for making our beautiful Easter banner and altar apron. Another thank you goes out to Germaine Hayes and Mary Ellen Sherwood for helping decorate for Easter! Eileen O'Brien

## ANNUAL APPEAL



We continue to further surpass our goal when counting cash donated to date and amounts pledged. *In an unmistakable achievement, we are at 166% of goal.* Twenty-eight parish families, two former families, and one unknown have contributed to this appeal. To those who contributed to this achievement, I offer my heartfelt thanks and gratitude for your generosity in these times of unparalleled crisis and countless calls for commitment. You are true bearers of the cross. Father Gerry



## ANNUAL COV GOLF TOURNAMENT

Golfers, donors, and parishioners are asked to mark their calendars for the annual Fr. John Boddie Memorial Golf Classic to be held on Friday, June 4 at the Piankatank River Golf Club in Hartfield.

This event, hosted by COV is a four-player captain's choice competition open to all. Team prizes will be awarded in each of three flights.

Golfers will also compete for individual prizes.

The \$85 per person entry fee covers use of the practice range, golf cart rental, green fee, on-course beverages, and dinner in the Steamboat Restaurant. Registration begins at 11:00AM with a shotgun start at 12:00. Proceeds are shared equally between local charities and the church's capital fund. To register or for more information, please call Gary at (571) 215-2407. Right now we need golfers and donors.

More information will follow.

## THE EASTER SEASON

Commencing with Easter, we began the Easter Season, 50 days of joyful exultation until Pentecost Sunday. Some of the differences you may notice are;

On Easter Sunday, the tradition in the United States has been to replace the Creed with the Renewal of Baptismal Promises, followed by a sprinkling with blessed water. A Rite of Sprinkling may appropriately replace the Penitential Act at the beginning of Mass on all Sundays during the Easter Season.

Instead of the Nicene Creed, especially during Lent & Easter Time. The Baptismal Symbol of the Romans Church known as the Apostles' Creed may be used.

Paschal Candle remains in the sanctuary, most preferably near the ambo, and is lighted for every celebration during the Easter Season. The Paschal Candle remains in position until after the last Mass on Pentecost Sunday.

In the Province of Baltimore, which includes the Diocese of Richmond, the Ascension of the Lord is transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter, thus replacing the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

## MEMORIAL DONATIONS

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the *Lord*, plans to *prosper* you, and not to *harm* you, plans to give you *hope* and a *future*. Jeremiah 29:11

What a future we have! Our new church continues to appear before our eyes. Without you, it would not be possible. Thank you to all the parishioners for their generous commitments.

Stained Glass Windows 2 left \$12,000 each



Memorials still available are as follows:

Confessional \$7,500  
Wooden Entrance Doors \$10,000  
Sanctuary Tile \$11,500  
Pews and Choir Chairs \$250  
Sound System \$8,500