

PRESENT NORMS AND GUIDELINES FOR CELEBRATION OF THE MASS

We have begun the process of returning to a pre-pandemic celebration of the Liturgy. We will continue to follow the established guidelines we have been using, which are enumerated below. The remainder will be introduced gradually.

1. Masks: **Fully Vaccinated.** Effective May 15, 2021, fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear a mask in any setting.  
**Unvaccinated.** From ages 5 and older must cover their mouth and nose with a mask when present for any Mass or liturgical celebration.
2. Hand sanitizer: All entering the Church are asked to use hand sanitizer placed at the entrance.
3. Music Ministry: Choir may resume.
4. Lord's Prayer and Sign of Peace: We are to continue the practice of refraining from holding hands during the Lord's Prayer and shaking hands during the Sign of Peace (bow or verbal gesture is appropriate).
5. Distribution of the cup: The distribution of the cup remains suppressed for deacons and the lay faithful until further notice.
6. Bulletins: We will continue to distribute them electronically until further notice.

*God's blessings upon you all.*

**Father Gerry**

*The Catholic Church Of The Visitation*

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THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL  
ST PATRICK'S DINNER DANCE

The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Knights of Columbus St Patrick's Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Piankatank River Golf Club Steamboat Restaurant in Hartfield, VA.



A Cash Bar open at 5:30 PM

Dinner Buffet, which starts at 6:30, consist of either Corned Beef or Grilled Chicken-with Roasted Red Potatoes, Cabbage and Green Beans. All meals come with Rolls, Coffee or Tea

There will be a large selection of home made deserts.

Following dinner, there will be dancing to music by **Disk Jockey** from 7 - 10:00 PM.

*All are welcome!*

Tickets are \$40.00 per person; reservations only.



*7th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 20, 2022  
Year C*

## The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 20, 2022

Today's Scripture readings challenge us to make hard choices in our relationship with others. We are advised to choose love, unconditional love, instead of selfishness, no jealousy or hatred but always to be sensitive to the needs of others. We are challenged to choose graceful forgiveness instead of harboring revenge and planning retaliation. The first reading shows us how David made the right choice, respecting God's anointed king by forgiving his offenses, while Saul continued to make the wrong choices, perpetuating his own misery in seeking to kill David.

And the most radical of expressing love and forgiveness is in the message of Jesus in today's gospel. "Do to others as you would have them do to you" It is the "Golden Rule" of Christian Life. This rule puts an obligation on each one of us to behave like the children of a loving, forgiving, merciful, and compassionate Heavenly Father. Jesus explains the golden rule and commands us to follow it as God's children. "Love your enemies...Do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you and pray for those who maltreat you." Jesus orders us to love our enemies and to be merciful and compassionate to everyone as God our Father is loving, merciful, and compassionate, this is the way our Heavenly Father treats each one of us.

As disciples of Christ, we need to practice this "Golden Rule": This Rule asks us to do to others what we would like them to do to us. If we love others and expressing that love by loving words and deeds, we will start receiving the same love from others and on higher level from God. Further, if we want others to forgive our offenses, then we have to change our words of criticism, and our thoughtless judgments against them, into appreciation and forgiving words towards others. Not judging but encouraging them and supporting them in their needs.

We need to pray for the strength to forgive. Our challenge is to overcome our natural inclination to hate those who offend us. To meet that challenge, we need to ask God for the strength to forgive each other. We must forgive because only forgiveness truly heals us. If we remember how God has forgiven us, it will help us forgive others. Our love towards those who offend us is also a healing for them, they become better persons because of our example.

To love our enemy then is not to enable him to continue to do morally wrong acts against us or anybody else either. If we want what is good for our enemies, we will want for them what we want for ourselves: to be a person who has love for the Lord and for his fellow human beings. The way of the Lord is radically different than the way of human beings. We have been given the grace to choose the way of the Lord. St. Paul reminds us in today's second reading that we are children of both the first Adam and the New Adam. The first Adam was physical. His ways were the ways of the world. The New Adam, Jesus Christ, gave us His Spiritual Life. We belong to the New Adam. We belong to Jesus Christ. May His ways be our ways.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

## TODAY'S MASS

### First Reading:

1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,12-13, 22-23

### Responsorial Psalm:

*The Lord is kind and merciful*

### Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

### Gospel:

Luke 6:27-38

## ASSIGNMENTS FOR February 20, 2022

Community Leader: Debby Harriman  
Altar Server: Joe Sychterz  
Cantor: Michele Meanly  
Eucharist Minister: Moore/Harvey  
Lectors: DeGroot/Weidner  
Collection Counters: Tutak/Harvey

## MUSIC

BELL SONG: Sing of the Lord's Goodness #562  
ENTRANCE: They'll Know We are Christians #585  
OFFERTORY: Christians Let Us Love Another #483  
COMMUNION: Be Not Afraid #435  
MEDITATION: Be Still & Know That I Am God #462  
RECESSIONAL: City of God #388

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

John Baker, Lavonne Pearce, Jeanne Lessner, Charles Lange



## PARISHIONERS

Marilyn Cox, Scott Kauffman, Steve Forte, Gary Richardson, Donna Thompson, James Peddicord, Paul Pearce, Eileen O'Brien, Laurie King, Cherieanne Johnson, Spike & Becky Nunn, Jim Moncure, Lois & Skip Kramb, Marianne Krop, Tom Foley, Michele Meanley, Jack & Louise Petralia, Grace Anderson, Natalie Smith, Pat Paul, Margaret Hock, Anne Dunn, Tom & Cindy Jessee, Mike Lokie, Steve Kirsch, Marilynne Cerullo, Tom Hawksworth, Mary Ann & Kenneth Gulick, Nancy Wirth, Bettie Hodge, Bob & Ingrid Borden, Bill & Linda Gray, Carol Smith, Pat & Lee Reamy.

## FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Karen Smith, Larry Hersh, Beth Edward Bailey, Shirley Schultz, Judy Kramb, Joseph J. Los, Emily Evans, Arnold Fahrman, John Matthews, Ramon Placiente, Jillian Mes-sina, Karen Tatum, Dave Hersh, Mike Shea, Pam Tibbs, Sherry Newton, Aqela Parker, Bernie Smith, Virginia Talke, Phil & Doris Melancon, Dominick Perry, Doug Meuse, Michele Brune, Noele & Mike Anglin, Anita Bomberger, Drinkwater Family, Kathy Shepherd, 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, Michael Reamy, Natash Walsh, Ellen DeMaurez, Michele MacFarland, LC Warren, Andy Hetzer.

## FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Mike McLemore, Dave Gunn, Louise & Jim Shockey, Mindy Miller & Ahmet Anday, Ron & Georgia Beville, George Adams, Lynn & Jim Vajda, Christine & Henry Archuleta, Charles Carter, Pam Sands, Kathy Goynes, William Scott Smith, Eddie Hall, David Smith, Sandy Bruce, Matt & Marianna Parowski, Gene Tunney Walker, Joe McInerney, The Butt Family, Peg Meushaw, Dave Gunn, Chuck Taylor, Paula Harcum, Cathy Kirkland, Rita Blommel, Linda Cryer, Tyra Freed.

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: February 13, 2022

Collection: \$ 2,334  
Second Collection:  
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 73,776  
Total Budget Projection: \$ 69,055



Link to our website

Our Second Collection today is for the Catholic Virginian.

We signed the following principal checks this week:  
\$410 Lawn Care and snow removal; \$159 January electricity;  
\$1450 Diocesan Assessments.

## BIRTHDAYS FOR FEBRUARY



2nd-Monique Donner, 4th-Jim Angell, 7th-Jen Clair, 9th-Bea Foley,  
13th-Robert Borden, Ingebourg O'Bourn, 17th-Gina Putney & Loretta Borostovik,  
19th-Bob Smith, 20th-Joesph Pausic, 25th-Brennan Williams,  
26th-Gretchen Borzelleca, Barbara Smith, Aden Calderin & Annabel Clair.

## ANNIVERSARIES FEBRUARY



6th-Jack & Louise Petralia, 14th-Joe & Mary Sychterz  
15th-Tommy & Donna Lange, 25th-Mike & Lynne Dreelin

## THE CHURCH OF THE VISITATION

Cordially invites your presence and prayers to the  
Mass of Dedication of our Church and Consecration of the Altar  
by The Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout, Bishop of Richmond,  
on Saturday, February 26, 2022, 11:00am to 1:00pm.

A reception with light refreshments to follow.

**Please RSVP if you are coming!**

To [churchofthevisitation@va.metrocast.net](mailto:churchofthevisitation@va.metrocast.net) or call 804-758-5160.

Masks per CDC guidelines are requested.

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Our Adult Bible Study small group will undertake a five lesson study entitled "The Eucharist in Scripture" on Tuesday afternoons during Lent. Anyone interested in joining the group should complete the sign up sheet after Mass or contact John Weidner at [jaweidner1@verizon.net](mailto:jaweidner1@verizon.net) or 240.780.1872.

## WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?

Catholics can use their estates to demonstrate one final act of stewardship. Our possessions are gifts from God, and God has intended for us to use them wisely throughout our lifetimes. Through our estate plans, we can provide for our loved ones while also making a faithful distribution back to God to further God's work. We will be remembered by our giving.

Don't let talk about a "will" get you down; instead consider the light and life a gift through your will can provide for future Catholics.

Love this church? Let your estate plan be a testament of that love.



Potential, Purpose, Promise

## ANGEL TREE THANK YOU'S

From the Director at the Middle Peninsula Security Center..."I write to you with a joyful heart to thank you for your loving and generous response to the children of the women and men incarcerated here at the jail in Saluda. For you to shower these innocent children with love and presents and the joy of opening new toys is a testimony to your grace. Much appreciation was also expressed to me directly about the generous grocery gift cards sent to each family. Thank you once again for embracing these children who are enduring hardships most of us cannot imagine?"  
*more thank you notes from the inmates are on the bulletin board in the Narthex.*



A Hearty Welcome to our new parishioners

John and Jen Clair  
Henry, Lucas and Annabel

170 Enon Hall Road  
White Stone, VA 22578

804-306-1731 John

804-839-4055 Jen

## Journey Together: Synod on Synodality 2021-2023

Here we are, Holy Spirit!



As we prepare to participate in the local phase through synod consultations, we are asked to listen to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and prayerfully discern God's will for us. In doing so, we are asked to consider several key questions concerning the synod's three themes of Communion, Participation and Mission. These questions are contained in the Synod Participants Guide, which is being provided electronically along with the bulletin.

Small group consultations have been planned to allow parishioners an opportunity to have their voices heard as part of the Synod process and should last no more than an hour. The Parish Council is scheduled to participate in the first consultation on Feb 3 and other specific ministry consultations are planned.

Consultations open to any parishioner are currently scheduled as follows:

After Sunday Mass, Today 10:00 AM

Thursday evening, Feb 24, 6:00 PM

After Sunday Mass, March 6, 10:00 AM

After Sunday Mass, March 13, 10:00 AM

Parishioners are asked to sign up to attend one of these consultations, using sign up sheets available after Mass.

Additional consultations will be arranged as needed to accommodate any parishioner who wants to participate in the Synod process.

We also welcome any written responses to the questions in the Participant's Guide, which can be sent by email or dropped off at the church office.

Please direct any questions about the Synod or offers to assist with consultations to John Weidner, Parish Council Chair, at [jaweidner1@verizon.net](mailto:jaweidner1@verizon.net), 240-780-1872.



## RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Diocese issued the following announcement last week concerning our faithful and beloved parishioner, Emily Filippi. On behalf of Bishop Knestout, I write to share that Emily Filippi, Director, Office of Christian Formation, is retiring her position effective June 30, 2022. Emily joined the diocese in 1977 as the Director of Religious Education at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Peterburg. After assisting other parishes, Emily was hired as the Associate Director, Christian Formation in 1997 and was promoted to Director, Office of Christian Formation in 2008. We are deeply grateful for Emily's dedication, outstanding service, and leadership for over four decades with the Catholic Diocese of Richmond. Upon moving to the Northern Neck, Emily and her husband David joined our parish in 2012.

## THE NARTHEX

Because we now have a Narthex (formally the rear of our seating area) it needs some explanation.

A narthex, simply stated, is a place for congregation members to enter in preparation for worship. Depending on tradition or denomination, other terms may be used, such as "foyer," "vestibule," "gathering space," "lobby." Whatever the term, the need for a place where people can arrive, interact, and transition from the outside world into a spiritual place is common to nearly all buildings that serve a religious community.

The word "narthex," is generally associated with traditional Christian liturgical churches, though the use of the term for a modern gathering and preparation space is relatively new. For early Christians, the narthex was a porch or ante-chamber near the entry of a church where those who aspired to join the church would wait until they became fully initiated members. Today, the term suggests not a place of exclusion, but rather one of welcome and hospitality.

In the publication, Built of Living Stones, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops note the importance of a space for spiritual gathering. "The narthex is a place of welcome-a threshold...between the congregations' space and the outside environment...(it) helps believers to make the transition from everyday life to the celebration of the liturgy, and after the liturgy. It helps them return to daily life to live out the mystery that has been celebrated."

It is also suggested that the narthex be approximately 1/4 of the size of the worship area, and ours is. We will discuss the narthex further in succeeding bulletins.

## ALTAR BELLS AT MASS

We are sure you have noticed the use of altar bells the past two weeks after the epiclesis. When the second Vatican council introduced a new form of Mass (priest facing the faithful and the use of the language of the people) the bells became optional, set aside in some parishes and restored in others. We will continue to ring them at the words of consecration during the Eucharistic Prayer as a subtle reminder to "Pay attention, Jesus is coming. He is here on the Altar and will soon be present within us in the Holy Eucharist"

## TABERNACLE AND MARY'S CHAPEL UPDATE

The Tabernacle will remain in Mary's Chapel until the dedication, at which time it will reside in the sanctuary behind the altar, resting on our present altar. The statue of Mary which once rested in the right corner of the nave is now in the chapel. A new addition to the chapel are votive candles, long a tradition of Catholic churches. However, ours are electronic in the interest of safety. To use it before or after prayer, just push the button and it will remain lit for 8 hours.

