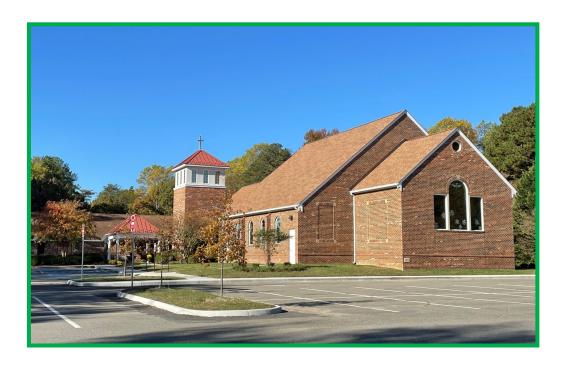
The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

8462 General Puller Highway P.O. Box 38 Topping, Virginia 23169 Phone: (804) 758-5160 Fax: (804)758-0676

E-Mail: churchofthevisitation@va.metrocast.net Website: www.church-of-the-visitation.org



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time January 29, 2023 Year A

PARISH MINISTRIES

Worship/Liturgy: Germaine Hayes Justice & Peace: Eileen Wagner Religious Education: Eileen O'Brien Parish Life: Johnna Harris Adult Formation: John Weidner RCIA: Louise Petralia Pastoral Care: Lynne Richardson Administration, Ray Kostesky

FINANCE COUNCIL

John Charbeneau Lisa Forte Debby Harriman Ray Kostesky-Chairman Fritz Sitterding

Church Hours

Sunday Mass 9AM Wednesday Daily Mass 9AM Thursday Daily Mass 9AM

Parish Office Hours 9AM-2PM Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

> Pastor, Gerald Kaggwa 119 Club Drive Hartfield, VA 23071 Phone: 804-286-9271

PARISH COUNCIL

Steve Forte Kevin Hayes Cindy Jessee-Vice Chair Helen Linden Roseanne Moncure-Secretary Steve Kirsch Cindy Powers Kathy Swinehart Mary Sychterz John Weidner-Chair

Church Secretary, Andrea Moore Webmaster/IT, Mike Dreelin

MASS/MUSIC

Entrance: Table of Plenty #311

Glory To God #914 Lord Have Mercy #913

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13

Responsorial Psalm: Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Gospel Acclamation: Rejoice and be glad;

your reward will be great in heaven.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a Homily: Father Gerry Kaggwa

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful: Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: the Summons #387

Holy: #917

Memorial Acclamation: When we eat this bread, and drink this cup we proclaim your death O Lord until we meet again.

Lord's Prayer: page 26 Lamb of God: #922

Communion: Christ Before Us #412 Mediation: Miracle of Grace #357 Recessional: God Has Chosen Me #389

February Birthdays

and-Monique Donner, 4th-Jim Angell, 7th-Jen Clair, 9th-Bea Foley, 13th-Bob Borden, 17th-Genia Putney & Loretta Borostovik, 19th-Robert Smith, 25th-Brennan Williams, 26th-Barbara Smith & Annabel Clair.

If you would like to add your name to the Birthday/Anniversary list please contact the office.



February Anniversaries

14th-Joe & Mary Sychterz; 15th-Tommy & Donna Lange; 25th-Mike and Lynne Dreelin.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING Today-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MARK YOUR

CALENDAR!

February 5th-5th Sunday in Ordinary Time February 12th-6th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Social Sunday

February 14th-Valentines Day

February 15th-Fr. Gerry incardination to DOR-2016

February 16th-Deanery Meeting COV

February 19th-7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 20th-Presidents' Day February 22nd-Ash Wednesday

February 26th-1st Sunday of Lent/Pancake Breakfast

(NWA Dedication in 2022)

Community Leader

Becky Nunn/Tom Shoemaker

Altar Server

Barbara Smith

Bill Puttmann Holy Communion

O'Brien/Sychterz Mary January 29, 2023

Extraordinary Minister for

Music Cantor Cindy Powers

Collection Counters Harriman/Dreelin

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from January 22, 2023

1,191 Collection: Second Collection: Respect for Life 315 Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 71,248 Total Budget Projection: \$ 68,609

There is no Second Collection today.

We signed the following principal checks this week: \$159 Printer lease; \$106 Holiday paper; \$1,495 Carillon Bell upgrade.

ROSARY

Please join us as we pray the rosary every Sunday before Mass. We begin at 8:30 am in the new worship area & we welcome all to join in this beautiful devotional prayer.



No experience necessary!

We have books and rosary beads available for use.

If you have any questions please see Cindy Jessee.

LEGACY

One of the simplest ways to leave a gift to our church is to use the beneficiary designation on savings and retirement accounts, as well as life insurance policies. These can be done with no cost, and typically only require us to sign a new beneficiary designation form.

Retirement assets and similar accounts are called Income in Respect of a Decedent (IRD)

Promise & Purpose assets. This is taxable income that's earned

during life but not received before death, so it is never included in an income tax return. This may be assets in Individual Retirement Accounts or 403 (b) plans, accrued interest on Certificates of Deposit and savings bonds, nonqualified stock options, deferred payments to capital gains, or other income that is earned but not

In most cases, naming the church as the beneficiary of these types of assets gives the estate and heirs the best tax benefits, since it avoids both income and estate taxes.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND RECEIPT OF SACRAMENTS

The office is the main source of information about these topics. Please call us about arranging Baptisms, Marriages, the RCIA Program, Sacraments of Anointing and Reconciliation, Sick Calls, the schedule for Holy Days, and our Rosary Ministry. If you have any questions or need information the office number is 804-758-5160.

SUPPORTER OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP

Vera & John England Christine & Peggy Williams Kathy Kauffman Tommy & Donna Lange Iohn & Diane Weidner Mike & Gretchen Borzelleca Dave & Emily Filippi Frank & Terry Sisto Cynthia & Chuck Taylor Charles & Louise Hartz Jim Angell Lynne McMurtrie Terry Skovera Don Tyrrell Joe Sychterz Don & Barbara Ross Norbert & Kathryn Bliley Richard & Mary Sue Dougherty

In memory of our pastor and friend, Fr. John Boddie, from whom flowed love and kindness to all who knew him. May his soul rest in peace. Money from these ads are used as scholarships given to the youth of our church. Please make your checks payable to THE FR. JOHN BODDIE SCHOLAR-SHIP FUND. Checks and ads can be deposited in the church office. The charge per space is \$100. Thank you for your continued support. The Scholarship

Committee

Website for scholarship application: www.church-of-the-visitation.org

Application deadline: Early March 2023

In memory of Mollie McMurtrie my long time friend. I will miss you. JoAnn Nolte

In loving memory of Joseph H. Nolte Jr.



Forever. JoAnn

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Lesson for January 29, 2023 #2

The Presentation of The Lord: An Encounter with Jesus

Last week, we reflected on Saint Paul's life changing encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus, when a great light knocked him to the ground.

This Thursday, February 2nd, we celebrate the Feast of The Presentation of The Lord, which has sometimes been called "Simeon's Encounter with Jesus".

Mary and Joseph present their newborn Child in the Temple, in obedience to the law, forty days after his birth, even though Jesus, the Son of God, is already "consecrated to the Lord," and Mary has no need of purification. Yet their humble and obedient fulfillment of the law enables us to see our salvation, and, like Simeon, to encounter our long-awaited consolation and redemption.

In Thursday's Gospel reading (Luke 2:22-40), Saint Luke tells us that Simeon is directed to the Temple by the Spirit. Earlier, we are told, it had been revealed to Simeon that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord, and Simeon has been waiting for a very long time for Christ's arrival. When he takes the infant Jesus in his arms, he blesses God, and sings:

"Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled: my own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel."

Recognizing that God has granted what has been promised, Simeon is filled with peace. He has no fear of death.

There is another encounter with Jesus at the Presentation, when the elderly Anna also recognizes who Jesus is and goes about telling everyone else in the Temple area how everything has changed.

Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and the Maji have all recognized who Jesus is. Now Simeon and Anna, who have been waiting for so long for this moment, are bursting with joy and announce what the Spirit has revealed through their encounters

Since we follow Christ, who appeared in the world as a light shining in the darkness, we should ask God to make us, too, a light for our brothers and sisters.

Perhaps like Simeon, we should also announce our own encounters with The Lord. As Jesus teaches us in the Beatitudes, we can do this without fear, at peace in the knowledge that although we may be insulted and persecuted because of what we believe, we should rejoice and be glad, for our reward will indeed be great in heaven.

Which Beatitude that you heard today inspires you to action as you announce your own encounter with Jesus?

EUCHARISTIC DEVOTION

What is Adoration?

When Catholics say they are "going to Adoration," they are typically referring to Eucharistic Adoration. Which, in the most basic terms, is the worship of the Eucharist outside of the Mass. The Eucharistic Host is displayed in a monstrance on the altar so that all can see and pray in the presence of Christ.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that, "Adoration is the first attitude of man acknowledging that he is a creature before his Creator. It exalts the greatness of the Lord who made us and the almighty power of the Savior who sets us free from evil. Adoration is homage of the spirit to the "King of Glory, "respectful silence in the presence of the "ever greater" God. Adoration of the thrice-holy and sovereign God of love blends with humility and gives assurance to our supplications." (CCC 2628)

We can show our adoration to God in many ways, but in Eucharistic Adoration, we spend time adoring the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

52 MASSES

52MASSES

In December 2021, author Daniel Markham visited us to complete his research for a chapter in his book "52 Masses", depicting a journey to experience Catholicism in America. He chose us and FdS to include in his book primarily to focus

on our joint efforts to construct a school in Uganda. Daniel's book is in print, published by Peregrind Press in Depere, Wisconsin, and we have a copy. In five pages, he describes his visit, conversations with parishioners, and discusses our efforts to build a New Worship Area. Father Gerry, Eileen O'Brien, Kathy Kauffman, and Don Delagrange are quoted numerous times, so we encourage parishioners who have extra money on hand to purchase a copy. The book is available a https://52masses.com/ It's a honor to be highlighted in the book, and be the only church along with FdS in Virginia to be so.

On March 18, 2019 we received an email seeking assistance on a Catholic Book project from Daniel Markham. He was reaching out to all parishes across the country, including those in the Diocese of Richmond. Ray read the email and said "I think we are worthy of being in a book and reached out to him." Daniel chose to visit our parish in 2021 and put us in his book.

Thank you Ray for supporting his project.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

A small group is scheduled to meet after Mass each Sunday in the "Comfort Room" Formation (Blue room) during January and February to discuss several lessons in the Journey of Faith series.

> This week's lesson is C12: History of the Church. All are welcome to attend.

Contact John Weidner for additional information.

ORDINARY TIME

We have returned to the period of the Liturgical Year entitled Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time refers to all of those parts of the Catholic Church's liturgical year that aren't included in the major season of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Ordinary Time thus encompasses two difference periods in the Church's calendar, since the Christmas season immediately follows Advent, and the Easter season immediately follows Lent. Because the term "ordinary" in English most often means something that's not special or distinctive, many people think that Ordinary Time refers to parts of the calendar of the Catholic Church that are unimportant. Even though the season of Ordinary Time make up most of the liturgical year in the Catholic Church, the fact that Ordinary Time refers to those periods that fall outside of the major liturgical seasons reinforces this impression. Yet Ordinary Time is far from unimportant or uninteresting. The normal liturgical color for Ordinary Time for those days when there is no special feast is green. Green vestments and altar cloths have traditionally been associated with the time after Pentecost, the period in which the Church founded by the risen Christ and enlivened by the Holy Spirit began to grow and to spread the Gospel to all nations.

GRANT AWARD

We are pleased to announce that the Diocesan Fuel and Hunger Fund has awarded us a grant of \$2,000 for the use of our Parish Pence Fund. This is the fourth time in the past five years that we have received a grant. We are thankful for the Diocese's willingness to help us support the needy of Middlesex county.



NEW STAINED GLASS WINDOW

Our esteemed and talented artist, Al Langer recently completed his second stained glass window in the vesting and reconciliation area of the new worship space. We are grateful for Al's expertise in creating these beautiful additions to the church.



PLAYGROUND MAINTENACE

We are pleased to announce that we completed the maintenance of the playground with the generous help of the Sychterz's and it is ready for use as appropriate by our parish children.





The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time "A" January 29, 2023

Today's reading deal with the virtue of humility, which is at the heart of our Christian life, and our relationship with God. Humility is the capacity to open ourselves up to God and to allow ourselves to be seen as we really are. Humility is the grace to let ourselves be broken and take out our pride and our ego, so that we can be our real self, not what we pretend to be.

All three of today's readings refer to humility. The prophet Zephaniah calls the faithful Israelites the humble of the earth. He conveys the promise of the Lord that even when God's anger comes upon the world, a remnant of people will remain who are humble and lowly. They will not be deceitful or perjure themselves. They will be open to God working in them rather than be crammed full of themselves.

Humility is being open to God's presence. A proud person does not need God. He or she is a god to himself or herself. The original sin described in Genesis was the sin of pride. Adam and Eve were too full of themselves to need God. The serpent touched a sensitive nerve when he told them that if they ate the fruit' they would be like gods. They did not eat it because they were hungry. They ate it because they were proud. A humble person needs God. A humble person fears what he or she might become without God in his or her life. A humble person recognizes God's presence in others, God's truth in different ways of thought, and God's action in his own life. A humble person seeks the Lord wherever He may be found.

In the second reading, St. Paul addressed Christians at Corinth, many of whom were at the bottom of Greco-Roman society. Some were slaves, some were lower class workers, many were people of no worth according to the world's judgement. Paul tells them that position in society and family origins has nothing to do with how God's plan would work through them. God would use them to teach the so-called wise and to demonstrate the foolishness of those who are full of themselves. He uses those whom the world perceives as foolish to shame the wise, and those whom the world perceives as nothing to reduce to nothing those who think they are something. Humility is allowing God to work through us for others. Humility is being less concerned with what we do or how we do it and being more concerned with having a life dialogue with God. Humility is taking a step away from us and a step into the presence of God to allow Him to work his wonders through us. It takes a tremendous amount of humility to be a good Christian. Because as Christians, we have to do our best in whatever we do, but we have to realize that God is the one who transforms our efforts into success.

People have always sought happiness through selfishness. People have always been too complex to be open to the reality of the spiritual. People have always been too proud to realize that they cannot generate inner peace and happiness. Inner peace and happiness come from God. And Jesus went up a mountain. After he had sat down his disciples gathered around him, and he began to teach them: "How blessed are the poor in spirit: the reign of God is theirs. Jesus is saying to those people and to us, "Simplify your lives. Let me simplify your lives. Just trust in God, don't let your lives revolve around other things. Be poor in spirit. Accept the presence of God in your lives, recognize your need for God and inherit the Promised Land. Be simple and single hearted and you will be capable of enjoying the Vision of God. Bring God's peace to

others and you will be sons of God. And if you are mocked for this simplicity, this humility, do not worry, your reward in heaven is great."

Humility is not looking negatively at ourselves. Humility is not berating everything we do. Humility is recognizing that God has made us wonderful and will continue to work His wonders in us.



Very Reverend Gerry Kaggwa V.

Please Remember in your Prayers

Art Smith, Walter Warren & Joe Nolte



PARISHIONERS

David Rector, Lorraine Kirsch, Tom Shoemaker, Tom & Bea Foley, Jack King, Shelley Katsuki, Steve Forte, Donna Thompson, Brendan O'Brien, Laurie King, Spike & Becky Nunn, Lois & Skip Kramb, Marianne Krop, Michele Meanley, Louise Petralia, Grace Anderson, Natalie Smith, Pat Paul, Margaret Hock, Anne Dunn, Mike Lokie, Steve Kirsch, Marilynne Cerullo, Tom Hawksworth, Nancy Wirth, Bettie Hodge, Bob & Ingrid Borden, Bill & Linda Gray & Pat Reamy.

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If you need to add to the prayer list please call the office, email, or leave a note in the box outside the office. Remember to put family or friend by their name.

PRAYER LIST REFRESH

It is customary to refresh our prayer lists in January each year. We do not change the "Parishioner" list, but ask that you confirm the names you placed on the "Family of Parishioners" and "Friends of Parishioners" lists by the end of January. Send us an email or drop a note in the office with the names you desire to remain. Next week will reflect the changes.

ENVELOPES, CALENDARS, AND TAX STATEMENTS

Our 2023 envelopes are available for pickup on the admin table in the Narthex. Also if you desire a tax statement for this year, please place your name on the writing tablet located in the same area, and take a free calendar. Tax statements are in the basket from the previous week sign up sheet.



In Loving Memory Of

Alma and Fritz Sitterding

Supporting Our Youth



In Loving Memory of Bobby Warren

Your Family Arlene, L.C., Faye, Caitlyn & Courtlyr

"Gone but not to be forgotten"

In Loving Memory of "Vinnie Recupido"

Barbara Hollingsworth



When someone you love becomes a memory the memory becomes a treasure.

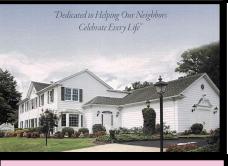
Jerry McMurtrie

Bill MacLean



TO SUPPORT
OUR YOUTH,
THEIR DREAMS,
& OUR FUTURE.

Lynne & Gary Richardson



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For the love and blessings of Christ given through vocations.

Thank You Lord

Art & Carol Smith

In support of our Youth Scholarship Fund

Richard and Marilyn Cox

SAINT THERESA OF CALCUTTA'S "ANYWAY PRAYER"

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered; forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and true enemies; succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; build it anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget

tomorrow; do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough; give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God; it was never between you and them anyway.

Breathe in Love, Exhale Peace.

In Loving Memory Of

David E. Brinkley

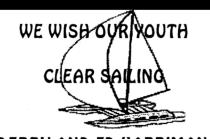
In Loving Memory of "Vincent Recupido" Dolores

We Support The Youth Scholarship

John & Carol McCormack

Thanks for always supporting us in everything we do!

Emily & Anna



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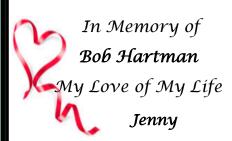
"God will make a way When there seems to be no way God works in ways I can not see God will make a way for me" J & L Petralia



Shore Shine LLC FREE ESTIMATE 804-832-6080

In Memory of Thomas R. Shepherd, Jr. and Thomas R. Shepherd III

In Memory of Lavonne Pearce 1st Secretary of COV Volunteer



In loving memory of Marty Hawksworth

Tom & Sharon

Thank you for supporting our education

Michael, Colin, Kathryn, John & Kevin Walsh

Frank & Gerrie Lohr Supporting **Higher Education**





C. Ben Lennon, D.D.S. Mathews Dentistry 804-725-9485 Deltaville Dentistry 804-776-9484



BE A KNIGHT

Contact: Grand Knight Bill Brandl 434-466-2455

OUR LADY OF THE BAY COUNCIL 11210

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." -Benjamin Franklin

Tom & Cindy Jessee

Best wishes to all the youth at Church of the Visitation

Mary Virginia & Tom Bliley

Kasey Law Management Associate klaw@cffc.com & Bank 0: 804.758.3641 x10892 F: 804.758.4174 NMLS# 1914115 cffc.com

In Loving Memory of Bob and Catherine Borden Fred and Betty Meister

WE SALUTE THE YOUTH OF OUR CHURCH AND THEIR IMPORTANT JOURNEY

Carmen & Joe Brinkley







In loving memory of our Father Bob Nash

Essex Law Offices, PLLC Attorney and Counselor at Law

P.O. Box 1543 Kilmarnock, VA 22482

(P) 804-577-4206 (F) 804-577-4323 EssexLawOfficesPLLC@gmail.com







Limerick II Enterprises

Tom Shoemaker In Memory of JoAn



Kenneth Anderson

"Say not in grief 'he is no more' but in thankfulness that he was'





Lewis Forte







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In memory of

Michael Tebbs Nunn

Douglas Arthur Nelson Nunn

"Our Beloved Sons"

Spike and Becky Nunn

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