

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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Website: www.church-of-the-visitation.org



7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 19, 2023
Year A

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

Please call the office about arranging Baptisms, Marriages, the RCIA Program, Sacraments of Anointing, Reconciliation, Sick Calls, and the schedule for Holy Days, and our Rosary Ministry.

PARISH MINISTRIES

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

FINANCE COUNCIL

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

PARISH COUNCIL

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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: O Bless The Lord My Soul #563

Lord Have Mercy #913

Glory To God #914

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord Is Kind And Merciful.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Gospel Acclamation: Whoever keeps the word of Christ the love of God is truly perfected in him.

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

Homily: Father Gerry Kaggwa

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful: Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: Christians, Let Us Love One Another #486

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: One Bread One Body #341

Mediation: If I Can Help Somebody (sheet music)

Recessional: Tell The Good News #378

February Birthdays



2nd-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

Today-7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 20th-Presidents' Day
February 22nd-Ash Wednesday 9am COV FdS6:30pm
February 26th-1st Sunday of Lent/Pancake Breakfast
(NWA Dedication in 2022)
March 1st-Soup and Station 5:30pm #1
March 5th-2nd Sunday of Lent
March 9th-Parish Council Meeting
March 12th-3rd Sunday of Lent
March 19th-7th Sunday of Lent
March 26th-5th Sunday of Lent

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

Community Leader

Gary Richardson

Altar Server

Ray Kstesky

Lectors

Mike Ballato/Eileen O'Brien

Sacristan Cindy Jessee

Extraordinary Minister for

Holy Communion

Tom Dorman/Noelle Harvey

Music Cantor

John McCormack

Collection Counters

Tutak/Harvey

February 19, 2023

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from February 12, 2023

Collection: \$ 2,393

Second Collection:

Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 77,761

Total Budget Projection: \$ 74,344

Our second collection today is for Catholic Virginian.

We signed the following principal checks this week:
\$1,510 Diocesan Assessment; \$1,501 January Electric.

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

By including the church on your estate plan, you are securing the future of our parish. Making a legacy gift to our congregation doesn't have to be difficult.

It is as easy as making the church the beneficiary of all or part of one of your retirement accounts (traditional IRA, 401(k), 403 (c), etc.) You can do the same thing with a life insurance policy.

The process is simple and costs you nothing: Just contact your plan administrator or insurance representative and request a new beneficiary designation form. In many cases the form will be completed and mailed to your for your signature. No lawyer fees, no complicated processes. It's something your could do this week!



Potential
Promise & Purpose

ADULT FAITH FORMATION



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

This week's lesson is C15: The Consistent Life Ethic;
All are welcome to attend.

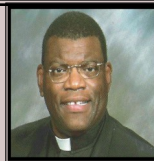
Contact John Weidner for additional information.

SUPPORTER OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP

Vera & John England
Christine & Peggy Williams
Kathy Kauffman
Tommy & Donna Lange
John & 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

FATHER JOHN BODDIE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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 SCHOLARSHIP 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

Take Home Lesson February 19, 2023 Love Your Enemies

Last week's adult formation small group discussion explored the Church's teaching on Social Justice. The lesson starts off:

From the beginning, the Church sought to understand and live out Jesus' command "love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12)

Now today, in the Gospel, we hear Jesus teaching us to go beyond loving ourselves, or loving our neighbors. Jesus insists that we should act with selflessness, that we should forgive those who persecute us, that we should love our enemies.

If we turn to the Catechism for guidance on loving enemies and forgiving persecutors, we find that the church teaches:

"Forgiveness is a high point of Christian prayer; only hearts attuned to God's compassion can receive the gift of prayer. Forgiveness also bears witness that, in our world, love is stronger than sin." (CCC 2844)

The lector commentary for today's second reading (1 Cor 3:16-23) suggests that holiness is not to be found in human wisdom. Paul writes that "the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God"

Paul suggests that human wisdom leads to self-reliance and therefore away from dependence upon God, who is the source of all wisdom

When Paul speaks of "the wisdom of this world", those of us who have recently studied the Gospel According to John can't help but hear an echo of "the Ruler of this world" who is, of course, Satan, the Tempter.

Where Satan rules, wisdom is in short supply. And as far as being a ruler, the devil is neither impressive nor especially interesting.

Bishop Robert Barron writes: "Satan is not the "dark side" that faces the light of God in a terrible cosmic struggle. He is a fallen creature whom God allows, for God's own inscrutable purposes, to work woe in the world. We should take the devil with requisite seriousness, but we shouldn't give this finally uninteresting and pathetic creature too much attention."

Recognizing that the source of temptation toward evil choices is in fact pathetic can be helpful in causing us to choose the path toward light, the path toward loving each other, including our enemies.

(pause)

Reflecting on the words we heard in today's Gospel, and thinking about the choices we are free to make, let us ask ourselves:

**What is the point of "turning the other cheek" in an argument, and why is it so hard to do?
Who are the people you find most difficult to forgive?**



DECLUTTER CAMPAIGN

In the past month, we have engaged in a campaign of cleaning out rooms and storage areas of clutter. It's been a great success and the work of many hard working individuals. The excess chairs have been moved, shelves cleaned out, papers sorted attics cleaned out, classrooms revitalized, candle wax removed, filters replaced, and excess materials stored properly. We are fearful of attempting to name the many parishioners who helped in the effort in the event we miss a worthy individual.

To all who helped, A GREAT THANKS!!!!!!



SOUP AND STATIONS

Soup and stations begins on March 1, 2023

A sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

Quart containers for your delicious soups will be provided, and remember to label the containers according to what soup you prepare. Bread bakers are needed as well. Thank you.



ANNUAL APPEAL

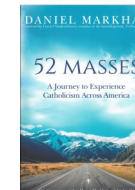
The second Sunday of Lent, February 26th, will be the first of two Sundays dedicated to the in-pew process of the Annual Appeal. As previously noted, our goal is \$7,180, slightly less than last year, but still formidable. This week, all parishioners who donated to the appeal in past years will receive a letter from the Bishop requesting a donation. We will also have a brochure and pledge cards available for new parishioners and other wishing to participate for the first time. You can also donate by scanning a QR code which we will place in next weeks' bulletin.

In today's Gospel, Jesus gave a radical commandment-"When someone strikes you on you right cheek, turn the other one to him as well" (Matthew 5:39). Today, it is cliché and remains radical, because it has the power to change hearts and nations.

With that in mind we might also reveal the power of such a disposition in our lives! Christ himself did not hide his face "from insults and spitting" (Isaiah 50:6). We all experience being "struck on the cheek: in various ways. We want our parish and diocese to be a haven where people can find the strength to face the evils in their lives. When you support our Annual Diocesan Appeal, you help increase our ability to heal and sustain the bruised and weary.

52 MASSES

In response to some questions about the book's availability, it can be purchased through Amazon. We have bought some copies for display and will do so in the Narthex when they arrive.



LENT IS UPON US



Next Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent with the Ash Wednesday celebration and the distribution of ashes at 9am. As you are aware, we have announced that it's our practice to observe five soup and station nights on the five Wednesday after Ashe Wednesday beginning at 5:30. We still need many volunteers to prepare soup and/or bread for the participants.

On Good Friday, we will observe the stations in the cemetery and have an afternoon retreat. To assist you in your devotions, located on the admin table in the Narthex are two publications for your use, the Lenten "Black Books" and the "Word Among Us." Please take one or both for your use during Lent.

The Lenten schedule is also there as a reminder of the events. As a final note, the triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil Masses) will be at FdS.

REGULATIONS FOR FASTING AND ABSTINENCE:

Fasting is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

Abstinence is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law done not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the parish priest should be consulted.



Ash Wednesday (2/22) and Good Friday (3/7) are days of fast and abstinence.

All the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

MANY THANKS

Many thanks to the dozens of chefs who donated their dessert specialties for our deanery meeting last Thursday. It allowed us to put the finishing touches on a fruitful and welcoming meeting. While thanking people, we cant' forget Tom Shoemaker who singularly moved the Legacy Tree and mounted it and our Memorial Plaques on the Narthex wall leading into the worship area. It was a monumental task that Tom performed in an outstanding manner.



The 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time, "A" February 19, 2023

The main message of today is "love and forgiveness". These two, Love and Forgiveness make of us what we are: Christians. They make us perfect, meaning holy, as our heavenly Father is perfect. All of today's readings explain why Christians are expected to be holy, perfect, and how we are meant to become holy people. The first and second readings give us reasons why we should be holy, and the Gospel describes four ways of becoming perfect people prescribed for us by Jesus, using three examples of graceful Christian reaction when people offend us and violate our rights and privileges.

In the first reading, Moses is reminding the people of Israel not to hold grudges or harbor hatred but to be holy people. "Be holy, for I the Lord, your God, am Holy." It also shows us the way to share in God's holiness: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The Psalm expresses the merciful and forgiving love of God: "He pardons all your equities, heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction and crowns you with kindness and compassion". In the second reading, St. Paul gives us an additional reason to be holy. We are to keep our bodies and souls holy because we are the temple of God, and the Holy Spirit dwells in us.

This love and compassion is what the gospel is telling us that we should emulate in our relationships with others. In the Gospel Jesus tells us "To be like God who is Love and forgiveness itself. He loves and forgives in full"! Jesus tells us that we should not just love our neighbors, but our enemies as well, and pray for them. In this way Jesus says we will be perfect just as our heavenly Father is perfect. Jesus' directive is not to be passive nor to endure exploitation or abuse, but rather to reject the temptation to retaliate or exact revenge. Jesus invites us to be merciful as God is merciful. "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect."

"Perfect", in Biblical terms means "holiness or completeness". So, Jesus is saying "Be complete as your Heavenly father is complete". In other words, be holy as your heavenly father is holy. And this means to Love completely and forgive completely from our hearts, even our enemies. As God loves and forgives all without distinction, condition, or boundaries. In order to achieve this level of holiness (completeness), We have to see our reality, and the reality surrounding us as He (God) sees it himself. We have to be people who fight for justice, respect and happiness for all, our deep relationship with God must be seen in the love we have for one another, especially those neglected, the poor, the weak, the sick, in our communities.

Jesus gives his new law of love, grace, forgiveness, reconciliation, and no retaliation. For Jesus even limited vengeance, has no place in the Christian life, even though graceful acceptance of those who offend us requires great strength, discipline of character, and strengthening by God's grace. Jesus tells us that what makes Christians different is the grace with which they treat others, offering them loving kindness and mercy as God does for us, even if they don't deserve this treatment. We are commanded to love our enemies as Jesus loves us, not because our enemies deserve our love, but because Jesus loves us, and all people, so much that he died for us.

Thus, today's Scripture readings challenge us to become holy as our God is Holy by loving, forgiving, and blessing others, even our enemies with graceful and magnanimous love, as our Holy God does for us.



Very Reverend Gerry Kaggwa V.F.

Please Remember in your Prayers

David Wirth, John Baker, Lavonne Pearce and Jeanne Lessner



PARISHIONERS

Don Tyrrell, 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 Krumb, 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, Bill & Linda Gray & Pat Reamy, Lynn & Jim Vajda.

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FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Olga Hall, Karen Armstorng, Elizabeth Panzer, Tom Sennott, Gary Campbell, Jim & Inga Peddicord, David Gunn, Hunter Jacobs, Kathy Goynes, Peg Meushaw, Rita Blommel, Linda Cryer, Allen Hines, Tyra Freed.

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.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Pancake Breakfast after Mass next Sunday, February 29th. The menu will be pancakes, sausage, juice & coffee. Please stay after and enjoy breakfast and camaraderie with fellow parishioners. Donations accepted.



FATHER GERRY'S INCARDINATION

Last Wednesday marks the anniversary of Father Gerry's incardination in 2014 within the Diocese of Richmond. If you wonder what is an incarnated priest, incardination specifies the relationship of clerics to the Church and the service which they rendering it. Taken from the Latin term incardinare (to hang on a hinge) incardination is traditionally used to refer to the attachment of the priest or deacon to a diocesan Church headed by the diocesan Bishop.



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 & Courtlyn

"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.

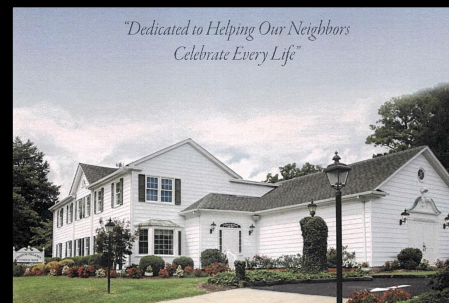
Jerry McMurtrie



Bill MacLean

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

Lynne & Gary Richardson



"Dedicated to Helping Our Neighbors Celebrate Every Life"

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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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FOR OUR CHURCH KITTIES
Choco, Tabby & Rufus



"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

Michael W. Garrett Owner Theresa R. Pace Owner



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"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
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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

Eileen N. Wagner
P. O. Box 916
White Stone, VA 22578
Attorney at Law
wagner.attny@gmail.com
804-337-8603

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

In loving memory of our Father Bob Nash


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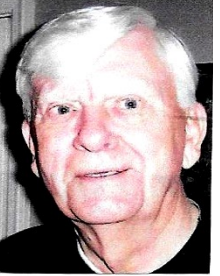
In Memory of
Lavonne Pearce
1st Secretary of COV
Volunteer


In Memory of
Bob Hartman
My Love of My Life
Jenny


In loving
memory of
Marty
Hawksworth
Tom & Sharon



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Build Their Future*
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Construction Management Services
Tom Shoemaker
In Memory of JoAn



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





Lewis Forte


Thank you for supporting
our education
Michael, Colin, Kathryn,
John & Kevin Walsh

Frank & Gerrie Lohr
Supporting
Higher Education

In Loving
Memory of
Morgan
Wells
Forever,
Marianne

In Loving Memory
"Ricky" David Richard Suyes III & Marie M. Suyes

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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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