

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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



1st Sunday of Lent
February 26, 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
RCIA/Adult Formation: John Weidner
Pastoral Care: Lynne Richardson
Administration, Ray Kostaskey

FINANCE COUNCIL

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

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: Enter The Journey #648

Lord Have Mercy #913 Glory To God #914

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord Is Kind And Merciful.

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

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

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11 Homily: Father Gerry Kaggwa

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful: Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: Ashes to Ashes #114

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: In Every Age #472

Mediation: If I Can Help Somebody (sheet music)

Recessional: Change Our Hearts #662



March Birthdays

1st-David Bushey, 5th-Tommy Lange, & Earlyne Glen, 8th-Sandi Delagrance, 15th-Victoria Hollingsworth, & Gloria Matthews, 20th-Gary Richardson & Alex Bushey, 21st-Peggy Williams, 24th-Barbara Hollingsworth, 30th-Michele Meanley & Joe Sychterz.

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



March Anniversaries

13th-Jan & Nathalie Smith, 15th-Frank & Gerri Lohr, 24th-Bill & Johnna Harris.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today-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 8th-Soup & Station #2

March 9th-Parish Council Meeting 7pm

March 12th-3rd Sunday of Lent

March 15th-Soup & Station #3

March 19th-7th Sunday of Lent

March 22nd-Soup and Station #4/Lenten Reconciliation 7pm

March 26th-5th Sunday of Lent

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

Community Leader

John McCormack

Altar Server

Joe Sychterz

Lectors

Pat DeGroot/Joe Sychterz

Sacristan Sandi Delagrance

Extraordinary Minister for

Holy Communion

Barbara Smith/Mary Sychterz

Music Cantor

Marianne Krop

Collection Counters

Harris/ Gray

February 26, 2023

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from February 19, 2023

Collection: \$ 2,251
Second Collection: Catholic Virginian \$ 372
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 80,012
Total Budget Projection: \$ 76,347

There is no second collection today.

We signed the following principal checks this week:
\$840 Deanery Expense; \$200 Carillon Bell Repair.



Directory Update

Jerry Suyes
330 Chesapeake Watch Road
Apt 108B
Deltaville Va. 23043

Dedication Anniversary

Today marks the first year anniversary of the new worship area dedication by Bishop Knestout.

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.

LEGACY

Permanent funds, such as those held in trust by the parish office, support the ministries of the donor's choosing. We hope you will consider a legacy gift that would support our church's ongoing witness.

There will always be the poor, the sick and the disenfranchised in our world. We will always need to help provide for ministerial education. Long after our lifetimes there will be people teaching other people about Jesus Christ. Create your legacy now to support these ministries now and beyond your lifetime.



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 Cl6: The Dignity of Life
All are welcome to attend.

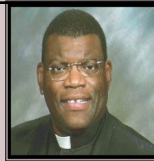
Contact John Weidner for additional information.

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

Overcoming Temptation

February 26, 2023

We hear in today's Gospel that Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

Matthew tells us that Jesus incorporated fasting into his forty day plan. Fasting has traditionally been understood to be a way of moving more deeply into prayer and preparing oneself for significant life transitions, which Jesus is doing as he prepares for his public ministry.

While abstaining from food has surely weakened Jesus' physical body, his spirit is strengthened by the deep move into prayer, and he is ready for the Devil with his offers of food and earthly power.

After the third temptation, Jesus dismisses Satan with a verse from Deuteronomy that the Devil cannot tolerate: "The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."

The Devil, full of pride and self admiration, serves no one but himself. He hates it when we serve God, when we love one another, when we serve our neighbors, even those neighbors who annoy us.

Effective prayers for resisting temptation can be as simple as saying, "I will serve God."

The Devil will not serve God, he will not thank God, and he certainly will not praise God.

As we incorporate Prayer and Fasting into our plans for Lent, perhaps we can undertake some additional fasting, to move us more deeply into prayer, since fasting does for the soul what food does for the body.

When we deny ourselves some of our favorite foods over the weeks of Lent, we sharpen our ability to choose the better course when presented with temptation to sin.

Father Luigi Epicoco suggests that there is no prayer more powerful than the prayer of praise. It's exactly the opposite of evil. For if evil always puts complaints in our mouths, the Spirit on the other hand always stirs up gratitude in us. It's a gift of the spirit, not a character trait.

We should pray to the point of feeling praise gushing forth out of our heart. At that moment evil is completely crushed. There's no more powerful exorcism than gratitude that flows from the heart of a man or a woman. If someone were to ask us why we pray, we might answer like this: We pray that we may learn to foster gratitude and praise within ourselves.

Praise and gratitude are our special spiritual weapons against evil and revenge. (pause)

If we ponder the example that Jesus sets for us in resisting the Devil, perhaps we could think of ways during these weeks of Lent to strengthen ourselves and help others to resist temptation.

What helpful advice could you offer someone faced with a temptation?



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

This Sunday is 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. Last week, all parishioners who donated to the appeal in past years should have received a letter from the Bishop requesting a donation. We will also have a brochure and pledge cards available for new parishioners and others wishing to participate for the first time. You can also donate by scanning a QR code located at the bottom.

In today's Gospel, Jesus claims, "One does not live by bread alone" (Matthew 4:4). Jesus forewent food in the wilderness for forty days to prove it was possible. Because he is so abundant, God's spirit can sustain any need.

Our fasting shows us that this is possible in a personal, experiential way. Fasting is an act of faith that "No, I don't have to satisfy every urge." Relying on God, we aren't subservient to our urges.

Jesus tasked our parish with the mission to reach hungry souls with Jesus' sustaining bread of life. Through your generosity, you can help our Annual Diocesan Appeal feed those who hunger—physically and spiritually. Jesus' angels ministered to him at the end of his fast and we, too, need your help to minister to the weak. Some souls have been fasting from His love for far too long. This Lent let's work together to end that fast. They need to know His name. May the name of Jesus be glorified through our Appeal!



If you desire a pledge card please see an usher.

LENTEN ENVIROMENT

As we enter the journey of Lent, we are entering the desert as Jesus did to clear our thoughts and concentrate on our faith in Him.

We should keep in mind that, just as our Father gave us water, the gift of life that makes life possible for us, so too, the waters of baptism make our life in Christ possible.



LENT IS UPON US



As you are aware, we have announced that it's our practice to observe five soup and station nights on the five Wednesday after Ash 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



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.

All the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

REGRETS

Last Sunday we announced the death of former parishioner Jim Vajda, from an extended illness. Jim and Lynn joined our parish in 2005 and moved to Williamsburg about 2 years ago. His Mass of Resurrection will be held next Friday, March 3rd at 1pm with a reception to follow.



Our prayers are with Lynn and her family.

SEASON OF LENT

Some facts and practices:

- *Last from Ash Wednesday through Holy Thursday.
- *No flowers on the Altar and Musical instruments should be used only to "give necessary support to the singing" The exception is the 4th Sunday of Lent and on solemnities and feasts.
- *No Gloria is sung.
- *Marriages and Baptisms may take place
- *Holy water remains available to the faithful.
- *On Holy Thursday and Good Friday, The Eucharist is only distributed during the Liturgy, but may be brought to the sick at any convenient hour.
- *Funeral Masses are not permitted on Holy Thursday and during the Paschal Triduum.

The First Sunday of Lent

February 26, 2023

Lent is primarily the time of intense spiritual discernment, leading us to conquering our human inclinations and temptations. It is also the time for repenting of our sins and renewing our lives for the celebration of Easter with our Risen Lord who conquered sin and death by his suffering, death, and Resurrection. Today's scripture readings teach us that we are always tempted by the devil, by the world, and by our own selfish interests. So, we need to cooperate actively with God's grace to conquer our temptations and practice prayer, self-control, and charity.

The first reading, taken from the book of Genesis describes the "Original Temptation" - "You will be like gods, knowing what is good and what is evil." Adam and Eve were given the possibility of making a choice to live for God, dependent upon and obedient to His will, or to say no to God. The temptation to evil led Adam and Eve to an act of faithlessness and sin. Adam and Eve preferred their own inclinations to the will of God. They allowed themselves to be tempted and willingly collaborated with the devil tempting them.

In the second reading, St. Paul describes how the disobedience of Adam, who fell to Satan's Original Temptation, brought him and us sin, death, and a broken relationship with God. Paul explains that Jesus Christ regained for us a right relationship with God by his perfect obedience to God his Father.

Today's Gospel teaches us how the "desert experience" of fasting, praying, and soul-strengthening enabled Jesus to confront his temptations successfully and then to preach the Good News of salvation. The tempter urges Jesus to turn stones into loaves of bread. But Jesus rejects that temptation to mistrust His Father by satisfying his own immediate, temporal needs, thus reducing His Divine mission to self-satisfaction! The tempter then suggests that Jesus prove that he is really the Son of God by jumping off the parapet of the Temple. Jesus rejects this as a temptation to act as doubting his Father's power, and demand He prove His Trustworthiness. Finally, Jesus rejects the temptation to idolatry, even if worshipping Satan would enrich and empower Jesus with all kingdoms of the world.

Temptation in one form or another is an unavoidable part of life. If we honestly examine our daily experience, we can find many aspects of temptations, impulses or tendencies contrary to the right way of doing things according to our faith. Sometimes we even try to justify away these temptations, to make them socially acceptable, and sometimes we just stay silent, allowing the devil to take us wherever he wishes.

And many of us try to dictate for ourselves what is right and wrong, to draw for ourselves the boundaries of "acceptable" behavior, unburdened by any notions about the will of God, or the values of the Gospel. We find reasons for our behaviors, justifying everything we do.

Jesus serves as a model for us in conquering temptations by strengthening himself through prayer, penance, and the effective use of the Word of God. Hence, during this Lent, let us confront our evil tendencies with prayer, with penance, and with meditative reading of the Bible.

Jesus didn't have an easy or quiet life. But through all those testing times he was victorious. He was passionate about his mission, and this brought conflicts and tensions, but he never gave in to temptations or being destructed from doing His Father's will. It is from him that we his followers need to learn to live a true life worth of being called Christians.



Very Reverend Gerry Kaggwa V.F.

Please Remember in your Prayers



Jim Vajda, Charles Lange, Bryan & Kathy Neff, Edna Duel, Art Smith and Dick Zimmerman

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 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, Bill & Linda Gray & Pat Reamy, Lynn Vajda.

FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Barbara and Ron Burkhart, John Calvin Barnard, Bill Penfield, Joseph Gascoigne, Joseph Borzelleca, Andy Hetzer, Sandy Alter, Ryan Jessee, Larry Hersh, Lynn Messina, Shirley Schultz, Michele MacFarland, Jillian Messina, Dominick Perry,

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Mason Goodrich, Olga Hall, Karen Armstornrg, 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 today. The menu will be pancakes, sausage, juice & coffee. Please stay after and enjoy breakfast and camaraderie with fellow parishioners. Donations accepted.



VISITATION SINGERS ARE BACK!

Anyone who would like to join us to sing at the two nursing homes in Middlesex, please come to church at 9:30am on March 13th. We sing once a month and sing seasonal music. Next month is St. Patrick's day music. Come join the fun!



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



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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

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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@cfc.com
O: 804.758.3641 x10892
F: 804.758.4174

NMLS# 1914115
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**In Memory of
Thomas R. Shepherd, Jr.
and
Thomas R. Shepherd III**

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

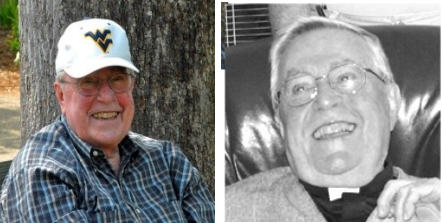

WE SALUTE
THE YOUTH OF OUR
CHURCH AND THEIR
IMPORTANT JOURNEY

Carmen & Joe Brinkley

Eileen N. Wagner

P. O. Box 916
White Stone, VA 22578
804-337-8603

Attorney at Law
wagner.attny@gmail.com

In loving memory of our Father Bob Nash

Essex Law Offices, PLLC
Attorney and Counselor at Law

†

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Volunteer

In Memory of
Bob Hartman
My Love of My Life
Jenny

In loving
memory of
Marty
Hawksworth
Tom & Sharon

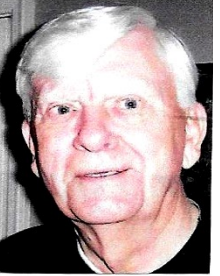


Helping Our Youth
Build Their Future





Limerick II Enterprises
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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Michael Tebbs Nunn
&
Douglas Arthur Nelson Nunn

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Spike and Becky Nunn

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