

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



Palm Sunday
April 5, 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: The King of Glory #728

Lord Have Mercy #913

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Responsorial Psalm: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

The Passion Of The Lord: page90

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful: Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: O Sacred Head Surrounded #151

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: Behold The Lamb #340

Mediation: I The Lord #687

Recessional: What Wondrous Love is This #156



April Birthdays

1st-Suzanne Sitterding, 2nd-Emily Puleo, 4th-Marianne Krop & Blaise Katuski, 6th-Ray Kostaskey, 8th-Pat Reamy & Annette Marcil, 10th-Anne Dunn, 12th-Nancy Wirth, 17th-Margaret Hock & Caroline Puleo, 23rd-Kaylee Kirsch, 28th-Louise Hartz.

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



April Anniversaries

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today-Palm Sunday (Passion of the Lord) 8:45am (outside)
April 5th-Daily Mass 9am
April 6th Holy Thursday-Fds 6pm
April 7th-Good Friday Stations-cemetery @ Noon-followed by retreat till 3pm. Good Friday Service-Fds 5:30pm
April 8th-Eater Vigil Fds 8pm
April 9th Easter Sunday-Easter egg hunt!
April 10th-Visitation Singers 9:30am COV
April 12th & 13th No Daily Mass
April 16th-2nd Sunday of Easter "Divine Mercy" & "Welcome Sunday"

Community Leader

Kevin Hayes

Altar Server

Joe Sychterz

Lectors

Becky Nunn/Mike Ballato/Joe Sychterz

Sacristan Sandi Delagrang

Extraordinary Minister for Holy Communion

Steve Forte/Cindy Jesse

Music Cantor

Michele Meanley

Collection Counters

O'Brien/Smith

April 2, 2023

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from March 26, 2023

Collection: \$ 2,390
Second Collection
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 93,243
Total Budget Projection: \$ 88,858
Our second collection today is for Easter Flowers
We signed the following principal checks this week:
\$208 February Phone; \$115 Lawn Cleanup; \$640 Mulch.

LEGACY

Members of our church gather each week around the communion table, reciting the words of Christ and participating in the sacred meal "in remembrance" of Jesus. That gift has been handed down generation to generation.

As we recall the names of those who have died, our minds are filled with precious memories. We are their legacy, and much of what we have - in both material and non-material things - have been handed down to us from them. But what will we hand down to those who follow? How will we be remembered? Will we leave more than an empty spot in a pew?



Potential
Promise & Purpose

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.



SPRING ADULT BIBLE STUDY

A Spring Adult Bible Study of The Gospel According to Matthew is scheduled to start on Wednesday, April 19. The study is

nine lessons, so it will run through June 14. We are planning to meet every Wednesday morning from 9:30 - 10:30. We are also planning to repeat each lesson on Sunday after Mass with a smaller group.

Contact John Weidner at jaweidner1@verizon.net or 240.780.1872 if you would like to join our study groups or if you would like additional information.

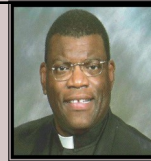
PALM SUNDAY
PREPARING
WITH ALL YOUR HEART

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

Palm Sunday

April 2, 2023

Obedience and Humility

At Mass on Holy Thursday, the celebrant washes the feet of twelve people, representing the twelve apostles whose feet Jesus washed at the Last Supper.

The washing of the disciple's feet is presented in the Gospel according to John. It occurs at the place of the narration of the institution of the Eucharist in the synoptics. (John 13:1-20)

In the time of Jesus, the act of washing another's feet was one that could not be required of the lowliest Jewish slave. It is an allusion to the humiliating death of crucifixion. It symbolizes cleansing from sin by sacrificial death.

After the washing is complete, Jesus asks his disciples, "Do you realize what I have done for you? You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do." (John 13:13-15)

Jesus performs a humbling act for his beloved disciples. The master becomes a slave. He empties himself out for those he loves, for all of humanity. He gives us a model to follow.

In today's second reading, Saint Paul encourages the Philippians to imitate Christ's humility:

"Jesus emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness. And being found human in appearance, he humbled himself, became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." (Philippians 2:7-8)

Humility. Obedience. Sacrifice.

We are called to die to ourselves in love for others:

How do you live that in your own life?

PALM SUNDAY

"Joyful acclamations at Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, followed by his humiliation. Festive cries followed by brutal torture. This twofold mystery accompanies our entrance into Holy Week each year, as reflected in the two characteristic moments of today's celebration: the initial procession with palm branches and the solemn reading of the Passion." – Pope Francis

Palm Sunday is celebrated on the Sunday before Easter each year and marks the start of Holy Week. But what is the actual significance of this Holy Day, and how does it play a part in the greater story of Christ's life, death, and resurrection?

The Palm Sunday Account

Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem with His disciples to celebrate Passover. When they reached the Mount of Olives, He sent two of the disciples to retrieve a donkey colt for Him to ride. He instructed them to untie it, and if anyone asked them why they were doing so, to tell them that the Master has need of it. They did as He instructed, and brought the colt to Him, laying their cloaks over it for Him to sit on it.

As He rode into the city, people spread their cloaks and palm branches in the road, proclaiming, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" The spectacle attracted the attention of those in the city, and many wondered who He was. The entry into Jerusalem is documented in all four gospels, with slight variations in each account.

Christ's Entry to Jerusalem Was Prophesized in the Old Testament

The triumphal entry was predicted in Zechariah, as Matthew and John note in their gospel accounts.

Christ Comes in Peace

The donkey symbolizes His peaceful coming; He is coming to seek and to save the lost. He is coming as the sacrificial lamb, to atone for our sins. In Luke's account, we see Him weeping over Jerusalem, demonstrating His sorrow for its coming destruction, as well as for those who reject Him and the salvation that He brings.

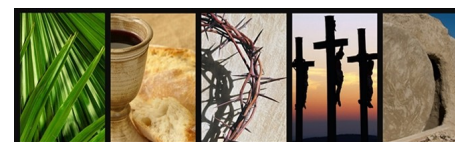
This is a great contrast to His second coming, when He will come on a horse, bringing judgement: Christ Is Honored

In all accounts, Christ is shown great honor. The onlookers lay their garments down in front of Him, and wave palm branches – a demonstration of victory, usually reserved for royalty. The onlookers shout "Hosanna," an expression of praise and adoration, which is also related to the Aramaic word for Savior and echo Psalm 118, which was part of the Hallel, a song traditionally sung at the temple during Jewish festivals.

This victorious entry reminds us that although Christ endured great sorrow and suffering, ultimately, He is victorious over sin and death.

How We Celebrate Today

Today, the celebration of Palm Sunday opens Holy Week. The priest blesses palms and distributes them to the congregation, and they are used in a procession through the church, recalling Christ's entry into Jerusalem. The palms are either kept and used as a reminder of Christ's victory throughout the year, or are burned and used as the ashes for the next year's Ash Wednesday service.



THINGS GALORE

We thank all parishioners, principally the Knights, who organized an enjoyable St Patrick's Day Social Saturday a week ago. Thanks also to the Flattones for their music and singing talents. A good time was enjoyed by all. Photos of the event are located in the Narthex.

SPRING CLEANING TIME

As spring belatedly comes upon us, we have been busy pruning trees and disposing of a tree that fell on our property. We thank Kevin Hayes, John McCormack, Dave Marcil, and Joe Sychterz for their outside work in our behalf.

EASTER RECOGNITION

Today's second collection is for Easter Flowers. If you desire to honor someone with you donation, please put their name (s) on the envelope so we can recognize them in our Easter Bulletin. You can also email the office.

ANNUAL APPEAL



Our participation in the Appeal to date is encouraging, 35 families have donated \$9,333, which represents 130% of our goal. We continue to hope and pray that our participation will exceed 50 families and reach 200% of goal, last year's achievement.



Just as you are a light, our Annual Diocesan Appeal is a light for all who rely on the ministries of our Church. Without your support, we can't reach those who need Christ's light to see. With your help, we can increase our impact, draw our neighbors into God's house, and help your local church burn brightly. You'll shine brightly yourself when you give alms...he promised you would (Matthew 6:22-23). Thank you, on behalf of our neighbors!

A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

Gracious God, we pray for the people of Ukraine suffering from war. May they be held in your loving care and protection and given the strength to endure their suffering and hardship. Transform the hearts and minds of those who perpetuate the violence and oppression. Grant wisdom to world leaders in advancing efforts toward peace; may they not be compromised by self-interest and blind indifference. We ask all this through the intercession of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and in the name of your Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.



Amen

SOCIAL "WELCOME" SUNDAY

Social Sunday in April will be on April 16th We will be welcoming all the new parishioners who have joined our church since 2020. We invite you to please stay that day, after Mass, to get acquainted with the many new people who have become a part of our church family. If you are able, please bring a dish to share.



PALM SUNDAY

April 2, 2023

The Church celebrates today Palm Sunday or/and Passion Sunday Because today's liturgy combines contrasting moments of glory, Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and suffering which ends in his crucifixion – the royal welcome given to Jesus by his followers and the drama of his unjust trial culminating in his crucifixion.

As we listen to the Passion of Christ according to Matthew, we are invited to examine our own lives in the light of some of the characters in the story like Peter who denied Jesus, Judas who betrayed Jesus, Pilate who acted against his conscience and condemned Jesus to death on the cross, Herod who ridiculed Jesus and the leaders of the people who preserved their positions by getting rid of Jesus. The reading reminds us that Jesus died for our sins.

It is on Palm Sunday that we enter Holy Week, and welcome Jesus into our lives, asking him to allow us a share in his suffering, death, and Resurrection. Holy Week challenges us to remember and relive the events which brought about our redemption and salvation, to appreciate gratefully the price Jesus paid for our salvation, and to return God's love for us (expressed through the suffering and death of Jesus), by loving others. The meditation on these Paschal mysteries should enable us to do our own dying to sin and rising with Jesus, which will result in our healing, reconciliation, and redemption. Proper participation in the Holy Week liturgy will also deepen our relationship with God, increase our Faith, and strengthen our lives as disciples of Jesus. And, let us remember that Holy Week can become "holy" for us only if we actively and consciously take part in the mission of Jesus of looking out for those who daily experienced their "passion": the hungry, the poor, the sick, the homeless, the lonely and the outcast, the discriminated.

The focus of today's scripture readings and indeed all the readings of Holy Week is on Jesus, who is faithful to the Father, faithful to his mission of saving us. Jesu is faithful not only when he was being praised and honored as a king but also during the terrible times of suffering and crucifixion. The first reading today is from the prophet Isaiah. He foretells the mysterious One who is to come whom we know now as Jesus, by saying 'I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked at my beard, my face I did not shield from blows and spitting. The Lord God is my help; therefore, I am not disgraced. I have set my face like steel knowing that I shall not be put to shame'. This was exactly what Jesus did. He trusted that his father would strengthen him to be faithful to the end especially when suffering. The Good News is that God our Father will strengthen us also.

The liturgy of Holy Week is telling us of the incredible love of a God who will never give up on us even when, having praised him in good times we forget his love in hard times. It is very important to note that nowhere in any of the gospel readings of this week does Jesus condemn anyone. Neither does he condemn you and me. The ultimate proof of this is that whilst hanging, in terrible agony on the cross, Jesus prays: 'Father, forgive them, they do not know what they are doing'.

On the cross Jesus broke the cycle of violence. Instead of taking revenge on those killing him and instead of returning hatred for hatred he returned forgiveness and love. Jesus did not act out of a power stance or with any superior force but met bitterness with gentleness, hatred with love, rejection by accepting the others in their anger. This is what we have to imitate. It is not easy. It is hard to follow this way of Jesus faithfully, for it is much easier for us to avoid confrontation and sacrifice, to avoid those who annoy or hate us. But Jesus asks us above all to follow his example by living daily with the same attitudes that he lived by. This is the way that leads to real discipleship.



Very Reverend Gerry Kaggwa V. F.

Please Remember in your Prayers

Catharine Aumueller & Jim Vajda



PARISHIONERS

Sal Messina, Ralph Linden, Don Tyrrell, David Rector, Lorraine Kirsch, Tom Shoemaker, Tom & Bea Foley, Jack & Laurie King, Shelley Katsuki, Steve Forte, Donna Thompson, Brendan O'Brien, 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

Ann Dreelin Shephard, Sue and Lisa Ferari, Barbara and Ron Burkhart, John Calvin Barnard, 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

Pattie Sobieski, Cliff Dean, Bill Penfield, Christopher Hutton, Mason Goodrich, Olga Hall, Karen Armstornng, Elizabeth Panzer, Tom Sennott, Gary Campbell, Jim & Inga Peddicord, David Gunn, Hunter Jacobs, Kathy Goyne, 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

VISITATION SINGERS ARE BACK!

Next month we'll be singing on Monday, April 10th. We'll meet in the chapel at Church of the Visitation at 9:30 am. We sing at Dockside at 10:30 and Riverside in Saluda at 11:15 am. We sing once a month and sing seasonal music. Come join the fun!



EASTER EGG HUNT

On Easter Sunday after Mass, we will have an Easter Egg Hunt for all children 12 and under. Please gather in the fellowship Hall after Mass to begin the Hunt.



VIRTUS TRAINING AT FdS



FdS has set the date of 04/29/2023 [Saturday] for Virtus Training at the Church of Francis de Sales in Matthews. The training will start at 10:00 am and will be approximately 3-4 hours. You can sign up to take the course on line at www.virtusonline.com

Emails have been sent out for all those who need background checks, as well as updates on the bulletins. *Please check you spam/junk email folder.

If you are new to the parish and are working with vulnerable adults or children please contact the office and we will help you get started.



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"*

Faulkner Funeral Homes
& Cremation Services

PO Box 228

Saluda, VA 23149

bhogge@faulknerfuneralhcs.com

804-758-2315

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

**WE WISH OUR YOUTH
CLEAR SAILING**



DEBBY AND ED HARRIMAN

"DOC" JONES Since 1970
Pre-Tested New & Used Auto & Truck Parts
-Junk Cars Removed-
Hours: 9AM-1PM
Closed Monday/Sunday/Holidays/Rainy Days
Route 3, Box 205, Hartfield, VA 23071
Phone:(804) 776-6900 FAX:(804) 776-9330
Toll Free: 1-800-552-4035
-Clarence D. Jones, Prop.-

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



SHORE SHINE LLC
"GET YOUR SHINE ON!"

804-832-6080 Licensed & Insured

Shore Shine LLC
"GET YOUR SHINE ON!"

Call today for your
FREE ESTIMATE
804-832-6080



"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
O: 804.758.3641 x10892
F: 804.758.4174

NMLS# 1914115
cffc.com

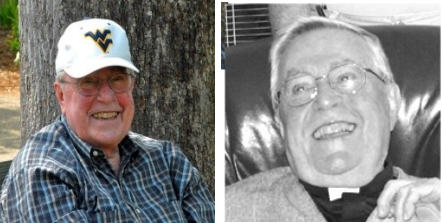
In Loving Memory of
Bob and Catherine Borden
Fred and Betty Meister

WE SALUTE
THE YOUTH OF OUR
CHURCH AND THEIR
IMPORTANT JOURNEY

Carmen & Joe Brinkley

Eileen N. Wagner

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



In loving memory of our Father Bob Nash

Essex Law Offices, PLLC
Attorney and Counselor at Law

†

P.O. Box 1543
77 S. Main Street
Kilmarnock, VA 22482

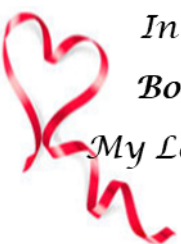
(P) 804-577-4206
(F) 804-577-4323
EssexLawOfficesPLLC@gmail.com

**BY THE BAY
STAINED GLASS**

Al Langer.....804-776-7427
www.bythebaystainedglass.com


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



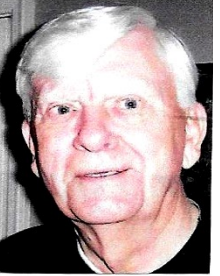
Tom & Sharon

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

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**



Ballato
LAW
FIRM,
PC

- Business Law and Collections
- Landlord Tenant Law
- Simple Wills & Powers of Attorney
- Traffic Violations

Michael B. Ballato, Attorney
~ Serving Clients Since 1980 ~
3721 Westerre Parkway Henrico, VA 23233
(804) 433-1060
www.BallatoLaw.com

In memory of
Michael Tebbs Nunn
&
Douglas Arthur Nelson Nunn

"Our Beloved Sons"

Spike and Becky Nunn

True Value

HURD'S, INC.

Where Shopping Is Fun

Deltaville, VA 23043 (804) 776-9241