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



5th Sunday of Lent March 26, 2023 Year A

Church Hours

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

PARISH MINISTRIES

Parish Life: Johnna Harris

FINANCE COUNCIL

Ray Kostesky-Chairman

John Charbeneau

Debby Harriman

Fritz Sitterding

Lisa Forte

Justice & Peace

Worship/Liturgy: Germaine Hayes

Religious Education: Eileen O'Brien

Pastoral Care: Lynne Richardson

Administration, Ray Kostesky

RCIA/Adult Formation: John Weidner

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 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: Lord Of All Hopefulness #410

Glory To God #914 Lord Have Mercy #913

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

Responsorial Psalm: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Gospel Acclamation: I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Homily: Father Gerry Kaggwa Gospel: John 11:1-45

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful: Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: In Every Age #472

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: Take and Eat #359

Mediation: Precious Lord Take My Hand #675 Recessional: Sing With All The Saints In Glory #595

April Birthdays

1st-Suzanne Sitterding, 2nd-Emily Puleo,4th-Marianne Krop & Blaise Katuski, 6th-Ray Kostesky, 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-5th Sunday of Lent/Pancake Breakfast (KOC) March 28th-Lenten Reconciliation FdS 6:30pm

March 29th-Soup & Station #5

March 31st-Movie Night 6pm

April 2nd-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!

Community Leader

Steve Forte

Lectors

John McCormack Altar Server

Holy Communion March 26, 2023 Lynne Dreelin/Barbara Smith

Music Cantor Cindy Powers Pat DeGroot/Ray Kostesky Collection Counters

Extraordinary Minister for

Sacristan Sandi Delagrange Harris/Gray

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from March 19, 2023

2,708 Collection: Second Collection Catholic Relief 291 Total Offertory Collection Year to Date 90.853 \$ Total Budget Projection: \$ 86.616

There is no second collection today...

We signed the following principal checks this week: \$1,381 February Electricity, \$159 Copier Leasing.

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?

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.

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, and we are planning to meet every Wednesday morning from 9:30 - 10:30, so the study will run through June 14. Contact John Weidner at jaweidnerl@verizon.net or 240.780.1872 if you would like to join our study group or if you would like additional information.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

A small group is scheduled to meet after Mass every Sunday in the "Comfort Room" for the remainder of Lent discuss several lessons in the Journey of Faith series.

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 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

March 26, 2023

Take Home Lesson for Sunday

LIFE EVERLASTING

We believe that Jesus was fully human and fully divine. That he is divine is clearly born out in today's Gospel as he cries out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" and Lazarus does just that.

In the Lenten Gospel readings we have heard of Jesus' humanity. After forty days in the desert, he was hungry. At Jacob's well, he was tired and thirsty. Today in Bethany, he weeps.

As Jesus shares in our human frailty, we hope to share in his glorious conquest of death.

In today's Gospel, Jesus says to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Like Martha, we do believe this. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life in the world to come.

The Catechism teaches:

How it is possible for the dead to rise exceeds our imagination and understanding; it is only accessible to faith. Yet our participation in the Eucharist already gives us a foretaste of Christ's transfiguration of our bodies:

Just as bread that comes from the earth, after God's blessing has been invoked upon it, is no longer ordinary bread, but Eucharist, formed of to things, the one earthly and the other heavenly; so too our bodies, which partake of the Eucharist, are no longer corruptible, but possess the hope of resurrection. (CCC 1000)

Also from the Catechism:

The believer's body and soul already participate in the dignity of belonging to Christ. This dignity entails the demand that he should treat with respect his own body, but also the body of every other person, especially the suffering:

The body is meant for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God read the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?...You are not your own;...So glorify God in you body. (CCC 1004)

In thinking about how Jesus calls us from death to new life, let us ask ourselves:

To what new life are you being called during this Lent?



SOUP AND STATIONS Wednesdays @ 5:30

A sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

ANNUAL APPEAL

In today's Gospel, Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. In doing so, he forecasts two events: his return from the dead and ours.

Death, and the events that follow, are challenging and often hide at the edge of our consciousness. It

drives us to avoid aggressive drivers, work harder, or hold close the ones we love at goodbyes.

As difficult as death is, the Resurrection is our hope and Lent is our time to pray, give and spread the word! "I am the Resurrection and the Life," says Jesus (John 11:25). When you support our Annual Diocesan Appeal, you enable us to deliver this same hope and mercy to those in need.

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.



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.

A THANK YOU FROM LYNN VAIDA

Thank you will never express my heartfelt gratitude for all you provided for Jim's service.

Andrea is always at the helm...you are COV's rock!

To Ray for his ongoing energy & devotion to his position. Fr Gerry is in constant demand, but managed to take the time for words of comfort.

How wonderful to see so many participate...from our beloved Choir, Ushers, Altar server, special Eucharistic Ministers & all who attended.

There are no words for Peggy Williams & her special gift. She honored Jim with quite the "send off". Truer words could never have been otherwise spoken!

To Christine Williams for her guidance both before & after the

Lastly but so very importantly... Johnna & her Angels. What do you do when one of Jim's favorite foods was spaghetti & meatballs...and on a Friday during Lent no less. The variety & display of food was above & beyond.

Thank you

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. Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence.

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.

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.

LOOKING AHEAD

On Palm Sunday, our 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 theme in our Easter Bulletin. You can also email the office.

PALM SUNDAY MASS

A reminder that next Sunday is Palm, Sunday and Mass will begin at 8:45am-outside.

MOVIE NIGHT

Faith Formation Movie night is Friday, March 31st at 6pm in the fellowship hall. Please see Shelley Katsuki for more information, or to reserve your spot.



LEGACY EVENT

Congratulations and Thank You for your generous hearts. The new members of our Legacy Tree-The "Lumina Cristie Society" are Ray and Jean Kostesky, Steve and Lisa Forte, Jane Agnor and Roseanne Moncure.

The Fifth Sunday of Lent March 26, 2023

In our Gospel today, Jesus went to the house of His close friends, Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. In the road, He knew already that Lazarus got sick. When He arrived, He was dead already for four days. He cried when He saw Martha and Mary crying. Most especially He cried when Martha said to Him: "Lord, if you have been here, my brother would not have died." It is because this shows Martha's failing confidence and trust in the Lord.

When Jesus had finished praying, he said, "Lazarus, come out!" Jesus says to each of us also, "Come out of your tomb, come out your bondage. Do not live in the darkness, live in the light. Do not live in fear, live in faith." When Lazarus came out of the tomb, Jesus then said, "Unbind him, let him go free." Jesus also says to each of us, "Be unbound and go free. Live a free life with me."

And when Jesus said to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life, who ever believes in me, even if he dies will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" He asks the same question of us also, "Do you believe this? Do you believe that I am the resurrection and the life? Do you believe that I can mend all the brokenness and wounds of your life? Do you believe that I not only offer you resurrection in the future but also the fullness of life now in the present?" Jesus promises future resurrection but also invites us to share now in the fullness of his life. The resurrection of Lazarus is not just a promise about the future of each of us. It is also an invitation from Jesus to enter into the fullness of his life in the present, right now, and that life will continue in us after death.

Do you believe that Jesus calls you to enjoy the fullness of his life now? Do you believe that Jesus is now calling you out of any tomb you may be in? Do you believe that even now Jesus is saying to you, "Be unbound and go free?" Let us today accept Jesus' invitation, let us walk out of any tomb we may be in and allow ourselves to be unbound and go free.

How do we achieve this freedom? How do we get out of our tombs? Notice that Martha and Mary sent a message to Jesus. We too have to send a message to Jesus, and we do this by spending time with Jesus in prayer and sharing with him our wounds, hurts and anxieties. Let us keep no secrets from Jesus but lay all bare before him. That is the only way to the mature relationship with Jesus.

Notice that when Jesus received the message about Lazarus' illness he stayed where he was for two more days. We expect God to answer our prayers in our time but sometimes God's time is different to ours. Also, sometimes we may be tempted to despair and say God cannot do anything for me. This is like Martha in the Gospel who objected to the stone being removed. But Jesus replied, "Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" Jesus is constantly calling us to new life in him; to come forth from whatever is keeping us in bondage.

So, today we see clearly the fully human nature of Jesus even in the midst of him revealing his divine nature in raising Lazarus from the dead. On hearing that his friend Lazarus had died, Jesus "wept," and he became "perturbed and deeply troubled." We see his love for Martha and Mary, and the freedom he gives them to love him fully in return. Each of them

confronts Jesus, exasperated: Had you come earlier, our brother would not have died! Yet at the same time, they express their faith that Jesus is the resurrection and the life. As we continue our Lenten journey, we are assured that Jesus is never far from us and that he understands our human longings, struggles and pain. Like Martha and Mary, we can place our faith in Jesus, and he will always hear his voice calling us, 'come out, be unbound, go free'.



Very Reverend Gerry Kaggwa V

Please Remember in your Prayers

Kathy Placilla, Jean Golembicki, Pat Tyrrell & Christopher Morrell.



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

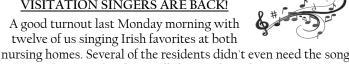
Sue and Lisa Ferari, Barbara and Ron Burkhart, John Calvin, Penfield, Joseph Gascoigne, Joseph Borzelleca, Andy Hetzer, Sandy Alter, Ryan Jessee, Larry Hersh, Lynn Messina, Shirley Schultz, Michele MacFarland, Jillian Messina, Dominick Perry.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Bill Penfield, Christopher Hutton, Mason Goodrich, Olga Hall, Karen Armstorng, 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 outside the office. Remember to put family or friend by their name.

VISITATION SINGERS ARE BACK!



sheets as they knew all the words to the songs. Next month we'll be singing on Monday, April 10th. We'll meet in the chapel at Church of the Visitation at 9:30. 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!

GOOD FRIDAY RETREAT INVITE

Stations of the Cross will be in the cemetery and begin at 12:00 noon, followed by Soup and bread. The retreat focuses on the Eucharist and the Crucifixion connection.

All are welcome!

A sign up sheet is located in the Narthex, please sign up it you would like to attend.

See Eileen O'Brien for more information.

CHRISIM MASS INVITE

The Chrism Mass will take place on Monday, April 3rd at 6:00pm at the Cathedral of Sacred Heart.

All are welcome to attend.



Loving Memory

Alma and Fritz Sitterding

Supporting Our Youth



n 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



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. f you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; be kind anyway. f you are successful, you will win some false friends and true enemies; succeed anyway. f 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

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



DEBBY AND ED HARRIMAN

"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"

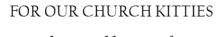
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Choco, Tabby & Rufus









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

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

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,

Maríanne





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



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 loving memory of our Father Bob Nash



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





"Ricky" David Richard Suyes III & Marie M. Suyes





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In memory of

Michael Tebbs Nunn

Doualas Arthur Nelson Nunn "Our Beloved Sons"

Spike and Becky Nunn

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