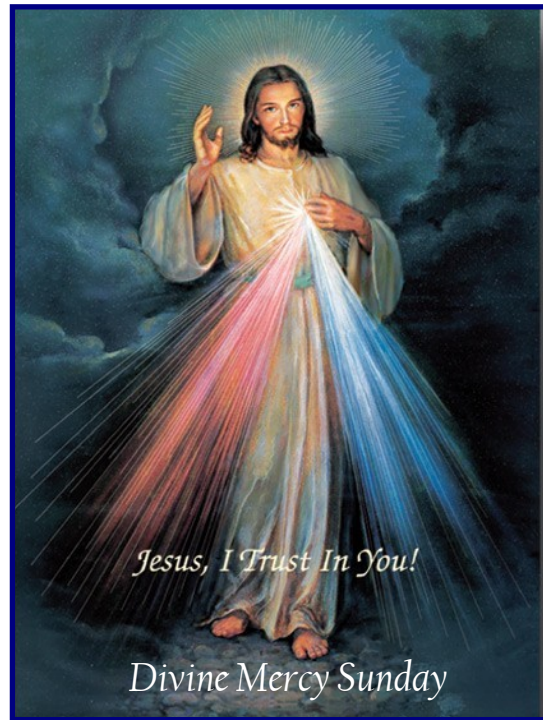


The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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



Second Sunday of Easter
April 16, 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: Blest Be The Lord #447

Lord Have Mercy #913

Glory To God #914

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43

Responsorial Psalm: This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

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

Gospel: John 20:1-9

Homily: Father Gerry Kaggwa

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful: Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: All Is Well With My Soul #471

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: Eye Has Not Seen #473

Mediation: Dona Nobis Pacem #199

Recessional: We Belong To You #646



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-2nd Sunday of Easter "Divine Mercy" & "Welcome Sunday"
April 23rd-3rd Sunday of Easter
April 29th-Virtus @ Francis de Sales 10am-2pm (must pre-register)
April 29th-Teaching Mass 4pm
April 30th-4th Sunday of Easter
May 7th-3th Sunday of Easter
May 11th-Parish Council
May 14th-6th Sunday of Easter
May 21st-The Ascension of the Lord

Community Leader

Bill Puttmann

April 16, 2023

Altar Server

Steve Forte

Lectors

Tom Shoemake/Lynne Dreelin

Sacristan

Cindy Jessee

Extraordinary Minister for

Holy Communion

Mike & Joyce Ballato

Music Cantor

Marianne Krop

Collection Counters

Tutak/Harvey

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from April 9, 2023

Collection: \$ 3,700
Second Collection
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 99,634
Total Budget Projection: \$ 94,197
Our second collection today is for St Noa School.

We signed the following principal checks this week:
\$1,654 Rectory and Priest Expenses for March; \$495 Bible
Study Materials; \$1,510 Diocesan Assessments; \$758 March
Electricity.

LEGACY

Life insurance is a way to make a larger
gift to your church than you might
otherwise be able to afford. Consider
naming your church as a beneficiary of
any life insurance policy.



If the needs of other beneficiaries will
be met in other ways, why not make your church the
owner and beneficiary of one of your life insurance
policies? If you do this, you may receive a significant
income tax deduction and future premiums you pay
may also qualify for an income tax deduction.

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

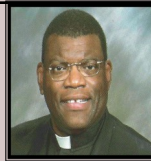
A Spring Adult Bible Study of **The Gospel According to Matthew** is scheduled to start on Wednesday, April 19. The study is nine lessons, so it will run through June 14. We are planning to meet every Wednesday morning from 9:30 - 10:30. We are also planning to repeat each lesson on Sunday after Mass 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.

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 for Sunday

April 16, 2023

Witness to Faith

On Easter Sunday, we heard from the Gospel According to John how three of Jesus' closest disciples dealt with the discovery of the empty tomb.

After hearing from Mary Magdalene that the stone has been removed from the tomb, Peter and the other disciple run to the tomb.

Peter enters the tomb, sees the linen, but we don't hear in this gospel what he believes.

"Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed." (John 20:8)

What he saw was a curious detail included only in John's telling of the Gospel: the cloth which had covered Jesus' head was rolled up in a separate place. Father Richard Vera speculates that this was a sort of detail of Jesus' daily life, like how he made his bed every morning, witnessed many times by his close friend and providing the vital clue that caused him to see and believe.

Seeing is believing. Sometimes hearing is believing.

John's narrative of events at the tomb shifts back to Mary Magdalene. (John 20:11-18) She looks into the tomb but does not enter. She is the first of the disciples to see the risen Jesus, but she does not recognize Him, perhaps because her eyes are filled with tears.

"Woman," he said, "why are you crying?" Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).

Jesus calls Mary by name. This is the way of the Good Shepherd, who calls his sheep by name, and they follow him, because they recognize his voice. (John 10:3-4) We are also reminded of this passage from Isaiah:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name: you are mine. You are precious in my eyes and honored, and I love you. Fear not, for I am with you." (Isaiah 43: 1b, 4, 5)

Jesus is with us today.

How can you see him or hear him in the people you encounter at Church and throughout daily life?

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY/2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

During the course of Jesus' revelations to Saint Faustina on the Divine Mercy He asked on numerous occasions that a feast day be dedicated to the Divine Mercy and that this feast be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. The liturgical texts of that day, the 2nd Sunday of Easter, concern the institution of the Sacrament of Penance, the Tribunal of the Divine Mercy, and are thus already suited to the request of Our Lord. This Feast, which had already been granted to the nation of Poland and been celebrated within Vatican City, was granted to the Universal Church by Pope John Paul II on the occasion of the canonization of Sr. Faustina on 30 April 2000. In a decree dated 23 May 2000, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments stated that "throughout the world the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday, a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind will experience in the years to come." These papal acts represent the highest endorsement that the Church can give to a private revelation, an act of papal infallibility proclaiming the certain sanctity of the mystic, and the granting of a universal feast, as requested by Our Lord to St. Faustina.

Concerning the Feast of Mercy Jesus said:

Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. (Diary 300)

I want the image solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it. (Diary 341)

Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to our neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to absolve yourself from it. (Diary 742).

The primary focus of the Divine Mercy devotion is the merciful love of God and the desire to let that love and mercy flow through one's own heart towards those in need of it. As he dedicated the Shrine of the Divine Mercy, Pope John Paul II referred to this when he said: "Apart from the mercy of God there is no other source of hope for humankind".

**A Hearty
Welcome to Our
New Parishioners.**

Gene and Anne Wolski
PO Box 250 Burgess, VA 22432
Gene: docwolski@gmail.com
Anne: awolski43@gmail.com

Tony & Annamarie Bonanno
740 Marsh Pungo Road Unit 5
Locust Hill, VA 23092
Annamarie: 434-760-4668
abonanno712@gmail.com
Tony: 434-466-9239
hotchef328@gmail.com



Michael & Angela Pycha
861 Skipjack Lane
Cobbs Creek, VA 23035
mikepycha@gamil.com
703-244-2170
apcha4@gmail.com
703-819-7961



Maggie Gerdts
810 Browns Lane
Urbanna, VA 23175
maggieurbanna@hotmail.com
804-758-2963



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration will take place the first Thursday of every month.

May 4, 2023 from 9:30am-10:30am.

You can come in any time during this hour and pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

Father Gerry will give the Benediction at 10:30am.
Please consider adding this practice to your prayer life, especially during the year of Eucharistic Revival.



ANNUAL APPEAL

Our participation in the Appeal to date is encouraging, 38 families have donated \$12,408 which represents 173% 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.



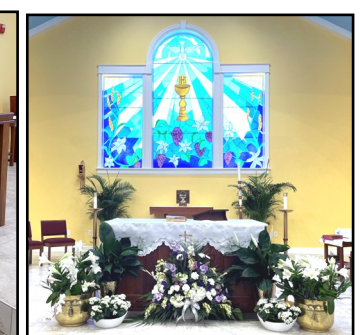
Just as you are a light, our Annual Diocesan Appeal is a light for all who rely on the ministries of our Church. Without your support, we can't reach those who need Christ's light to see. With your help, we can increase our impact, draw our neighbors into God's house, and help your local church burn 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!

CUDOS AND THANKS

As we continue celebrating the Easter Season, our thanks and admiration go out to Cindy Jessee and her group of talented decorators who created a perfect environment for the Palm Sunday and Easter Celebrations. "Beautiful" is an understatement for the appearance of the New Worship Area. Those responsible were

Cindy Jessee, Germaine Hayes, Eileen O'Brien, Roseanne Moncure, Barbara Smith, Annette Marcil, Kari Lee Donovan, Mary Ellen Sherwood, Michele Meanley and Steve and Lisa Forte for the glorious flower arrangements.

While commending persons, we cannot forget the Palmer Brothers, who built and installed the new railing leading to the Sanctuary.



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER "DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY"

This Sunday is also known as Divine Mercy Sunday due to the message of the Gospel we read on this Sunday. Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them the power to continue his work of forgiveness. " ... he breathed on them and said, receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sin you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Again, in the Gospel, Jesus shows his loving forgiveness to the Disciples who abandoned him, and even Thomas who refused to believe when they others told him that he is alive. Jesus forgives all that.

Jesus appeared to the disciples and showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. He does this to help the apostles recognize him. It is the same Jesus now as he was before his death. They are also proof of his love for them and all of us. He also showed them to Thomas and allowed him to touch them. He is telling us that it is alright to go to God in our woundedness, with our sins and shortcomings. He will always welcome us. We don't have to pretend to be what we are not, Jesus appreciates our honesty.

The end of the gospel passage today states: 'There were many other signs that Jesus worked, and the disciples saw but they are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name'.

Faith or belief is not just about believing in things we do not see. Faith is about taking a risk and making commitments, even if what lies ahead is unclear, even if we are not sure. This is what Jesus was challenging Thomas about. He was inviting Thomas to believe him even though he did not see him. Moreover, he is inviting Thomas to commit his life to him, and this will involve risk. Thomas did not want to believe only on the ground of what he was told, he wanted to experience Jesus for himself rather than taking the word of others.

In following Jesus, we often find ourselves doubting, questioning, hesitating, even challenging Him. The Gospel today is an insight about our human nature, doubting and looking for tangible signs. But our faith calls us to go deeper. Believing in Jesus means a close following of Him, a commitment of our lives to him even when the signs are not too clear. Basically, it is about trust. We have to ask ourselves daily: will we trust Jesus, will we be faithful in following him when our conditions are not met but allow him to act as he knows best, not always understanding why he acts this way?

This was basically the problem for Thomas. We read that he set up his own conditions for believing in Jesus. "Unless I see the marks of the nails in his hands, and put my finger into the nail marks, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe". Then when the compassionate, understanding Risen Jesus Christ appears again, we see his sensitivity to the doubts of Thomas. There is no condemnation on the part of Jesus, simply kindness and gentleness.

This is our God, he knows our human nature and that doubt will sometimes come our way, causing us to doubt God's love and care for us. But today's gospel is a litany of God's incredible understanding and sensitivity to who we are. First, he appears to the disciples locked in a room for fear of the Jews. His first words are not those of condemnation but of consolation – he offers them Peace, and this fills them with joy. Because not only are they locked in a room but also, they are locked into their fears. They are in a sense paralyzed by fear. Jesus becomes a life-giver to them. Joy replaces fear. Let us not allow our fears to dominate our lives. Jesus came to free each of us offering us freedom and peace.



Very Reverend Gerry Kaggwa V. F.

Please Remember in your Prayers

*Paul Sherwood, Morgan Wells, Elaine Wallenburg
& Kenneth Anderson*



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 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 Vajda.

FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

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FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Pattie Sobieski, Cliff Dean, Bill Penfield, Christopher Hutton, Mason Goodrich, Olga Hall, Karen Armstrong, 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 April 23, 2023. The menu will be pancakes, sausage, juice & coffee.

Please stay after and enjoy breakfast and camaraderie with fellow parishioners. Donations accepted.



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 your 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"*

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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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-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



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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
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

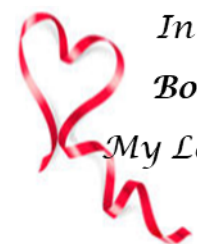
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In Memory of
Lavonne Pearce
1st Secretary of COV
Volunteer

In Memory of
Bob Hartman
My Love of My Life
Jenny



In loving
memory of
Marty
Hawksworth
Tom & Sharon

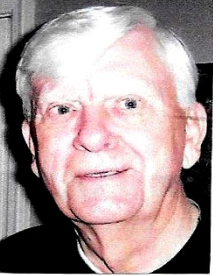


Helping Our Youth
Build Their Future





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.
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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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