

# 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



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 3, 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, Johnny Mintah-Mensah "Koo"

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, the schedule for Holy Days, and our Rosary Ministry.

### PARISH MINISTRIES

Worship/Liturgy: Germaine Hayes  
Justice & Peace  
Religious Education: Zaida Wohleking  
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

Kevin Hayes  
Cindy Jessee-Vice Chair  
Steve Kirsch  
Helen Linden  
Roseanne Moncure-Secretary  
Cindy Powers  
Kathy Swinehart  
Mary Sychterz  
John Weidner-Chair

Church Secretary, Andrea Moore  
Webmaster/IT, Mike Dreelin

### MASS/MUSIC

Entrance: All Are Welcome #421

"Loving and Forgiving" #664

Penitential Act: page 4

Lord Have Mercy #913

Glory To God #914

### Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

Responsorial Psalm: My soul is thirsting for you,  
O Lord my God.

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Gospel Acclamation: May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call.

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

Homily: Father Koo

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful: Response: Lord hear our prayer

### Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: Christ Before Us #412

Holy: #917

Memorial Acclamation: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.

Lord's Prayer: page 26

Lamb of God: #922

Communion: Taste and See #335

Meditation: All Is Well With My Soul #471

Recessional: Let There Be Peace On Earth #533



### September Birthdays

4th-Larry Miller, 8th-Henry & Lucas Clair, 9th-Mary Sychterz, 10th-Eileen O'Brien, 11th-Christopher Kirsch, 13th-Terry Hess, Pamela Seay & Donna Plunkert, 14th-Linda Peterson, 15th-Cindy Jessee, 20th-Shelley Katsuki, 21st-Alan Richardson, Terry Hess & Emily Filippi, 22nd-Joyce Ballato.

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



### September Anniversaries

8th-John & Diane Weidner, 10th-Steve & Loraine Kirsch, 12th-Bryan & Jennifer Miller, 17th-Genje & Shelley Katsuki, 30th-Dan & Linda Peterson.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Today-September 3rd-22nd Sunday in Ordinary MARK YOUR CALENDAR!  
September 7th-Eucharistic Adoration 9:30am-10:am NWA  
September 8th-1985 New Building Phase I Dedication (admin)  
September 10th-23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time/No Social Sunday  
September 11th-Visitation Singers  
September 12th-Office Closed for the day  
September 14th-Parish Council Meeting 3pm  
September 17th-24th  
September 17th-Sunday in Ordinary Time/FF starts  
September 19th-Directory Photos (Day 1)

### THIS WEEKS ASSIGNMENTS: September 3, 2023

Sacristy Duty: Noelle Harvey Community Leader: Bill Putman

Altar Server: TBA Lector: Nunn/Weidner

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Dreelin/TBA

Chalice: Harvey/Shoemaker/Dorman

Music: Jan Smith

Counters: O'Brien/Smith

### NEXT WEEKS ASSIGNMENTS: September 10, 2023

Sacristy Duty: Sandi Delagrang Community Leader: John Clair

Altar Server: TBA Lectors: Petralia/Dreelin

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: TBA/K. Donovan

Chalice: Shoemaker/T. Dorman/G. Richardson

Music: TBA

Counters: King/Kirsch/Angell

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION from August 27, 2023

Collection: \$ 2,265

Second Collection:

Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 22,381

Total Budget Projection: \$ 21,716

Loan Balance \$ 157,487

*Our second collection today is for debt reduction.*

We signed the following principal checks this week:  
\$207 August telephone; \$237 credit card purchases.

### LEGACY

A retirement account, such as an IRA, 401(k), or 403(b), often comprises a large portion of a person's wealth. Yet did you know they are the most heavily taxed — and a perfect instrument for making a charitable gift at death?

The way in which you distribute the assets in your retirement accounts can reflect your faith and values. By naming our church as beneficiary of your retirement account, you can pass on assets you no longer can use, and spare your estate the tax burden affiliated with these plans.



### NEW PARISHIONERS

Joseph & Una Kerrigan  
1256 Kates Neck Road  
Topping, VA 23169  
804-286-9661  
lonnie1875@aol.com



### RECURING EVENTS

Weekly-Sunday 8:30am-New Worship Area Rosary (Cindy Jessee)

Weekly-Thursday 9:30am-Women's Group (Louise Petralia)

2nd-Thursday of the month-Adoration 9:30am-10:30am (Cindy Jessee)

2nd-Monday of the month-Visitation Singers 9:30am (Carol McCormack)

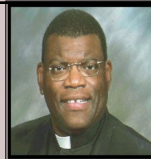
3rd-Wednesday of the month-K of C meeting starts 5:15pm (Al Langer)

**SUPPORTER OF  
OUR SCHOLARSHIP**

Vera & John England  
Christine & Peggy Williams  
Kathy Kauffman  
Tommy & Donna Lange  
John & Diane Weidner  
Mike & Gretchen Borzelleca  
Charles & Louise Hartz  
Jim Angell  
Terry Skovera  
Don Tyrrell  
Norbert & Kathryn Bliley  
Dan & Linda Peterson  
Frank & Terry Sisto  
Gene & Anne Wolski

**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](http://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

September 3, 2023

**Taking Up The Cross**

Today's reading from Matthew's Gospel follows immediately after last week's Gospel reading which featured Peter's great profession of faith.

We again offer commentary from scripture scholar Stephen Wilbricht: "While Peter is able to identify Jesus as the Christ, he is unwilling to accept Jesus' humble acceptance of God's will, which would lead to his suffering and eventual death. Side by side, these two passages demonstrate the difficulty of holding together the horror of the cross with the messianic nature of the person Jesus."

In his private rebuke of Peter, for attempting to shield him from suffering, Jesus reminds Peter that he is failing to discern the will of God. "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." (Matt 16:23)

As spiritual writer Father Bonaventure Perquin discusses thinking as God does, he says, "We need to discipline our imagination and learn to live every day as it comes, remembering that God's will is infinitely wise, merciful, and tender, and that he unfailingly gives us the grace we need to accept his will, but only at the exact moment we need it. then we really live by faith, trust and love."

Wilbricht continues: "Peter is viewing power and authority as humans naturally would. However, Jesus turns to his disciples as a whole and tell them the true nature of power and authority, namely, what will come to be celebrated in the Church as the paschal mystery."

"Discipleship involves a willingness to die to self in order to find life again in service to others. Jesus outlines this threefold movement: denial of self, taking up the cross, and following after him. Far from seeking the reward of glory, the very purpose of following Jesus is the carrying of the cross. Profit and gain are overturned in Christian discipleship; Christians are to give themselves away in order to receive all that Christ will have in store when he returns in glory."

Jesus said, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." (Matt 16:24) Familiar though Jesus' command may be, it is challenging, something the most devout Christian might not be able to do. Nevertheless, this week we ask:

**In what concrete ways do you take up your cross and follow Jesus?**

**PICTORIAL  
Directory**

It's time for our  
NEW Parish  
Directory! Every  
family receives a  
FREE 8x10 family  
portrait and a  
printed directory!



**Save The Date!**



**DATES FOR DIRECTORY PHOTOS**

We are scheduling directory photos on September 19 (one time slot remains), September 20, and October 12 from 2:30 to 8:30 pm each day. Appointments are made on a first come, first served basis, and all parishioners that are photographed will receive a free 8 X 10 photo and a parish directory. Additional photos will be available for purchase.

We currently have approximately 70 families/individuals scheduled, and we'd like to sign up many more!

*Pat Marchant, and Helen Linden, and/or Lynne Richardson are available to help you schedule your appointment, or you can call the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays for help.*

Those who wish to schedule their own appointment should visit the website at

www.ucdir.com or scan this QR Code:  
Church code: **va221** Password: **photos**



**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE COV PICNIC**

Our Annual Parish Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, September 24th immediately following Mass. Please plan to join us for a late morning picnic. The parish will provide hamburgers and hot dogs, non-alcoholic beverages and games to play such as cornhole, velcro toss, and bingo. We ask you to bring a side dish or dessert to share with others,

If you have a different game to play, bring it with you. Those who prefer alcoholic beverages are free to bring you own.

*Please contact Johnna Harris if you are willing to help with set-up or clean-up.*

**FOLLOW YOUR CALL TO SERVE**

Do you think you may be called to serve the Church in a new role? The Office of the Permanent Diaconate is hosting three informational sessions this fall for men who might have a calling to ordained service to the Church and to the bishop as a permanent deacon, and are interested in discerning their calling while learning about the commitment it involves. Qualifications for formation to the permanent diaconate include, but are not limited to the following:

- A Roman Catholic for a minimum of 5 years at time of application.
- Registered parishioner within the Diocese of Richmond for five years at the time of application, and active in the parish community.
- Between the ages of 30 and 59 at the time of application.
- Committed to and living out values of justice, charity and service.
- Demonstrates grateful fidelity to all that the Church teaches, openness to formation, and leadership.

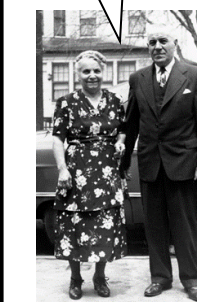
Following these sessions, a new cohort of permanent deacons will be formed in 2024. Our permanent deacons are assigned to a parish where they exercise liturgical and catechetical ministries within their parish communities. Deacons hold roles both in their church and in a variety of secular professions, showing how unique this vocation is. Please prayerfully discern whether you may be called to join a thriving and essential vocation to serve the Church in a new way. For those interested, visit the Permanent Diaconate page on [richmonddioocese.org](http://richmonddioocese.org) or email [gmancuso@richmonddioocese.org](mailto:gmancuso@richmonddioocese.org). If you feel the call, talk to your pastor!



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**14th Annual Italian Feast**

Church of the Visitation  
Rt. 3, Topping, VA  
Sat. October 7, 2023  
Seating at 5:00PM



**Menu**

Salad, Pasta  
Homemade Meatballs, made with Pork, Beef and Veal  
Sweet Italian Sausages  
Bread and Desserts Red and White Wine  
Coffee Ice Tea

\$35.00 per person Children under 12 \$5.00  
(Children under 5 eat free)

Reservations Requested by September 27th

Call: 804-725-1656 or 804-776-0078

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

We received a request from the ASSE international students exchange program to publish a need for hosting an exchange student. The students are all active members in their church back home. They identified among others:

Marco, 17 years old, from Italy, loves sports of all kinds, and loves learning about other cultures and meeting new people. He also enjoys fishing and riding his mountain bike.

Maeve, 16 years old, from France enjoys painting and drawing, as well as many outdoor activities. Maeve loves spending time with her Catholic Youth Group.

Izaro, 16 years old from Spain, and a scholarship winner, enjoys spending time with her faith group. Other interests are drama club, hiking, anime and baseball. A well-rounded young lady.

Hortense, 15 years old, from France, loves to engage with people and make others laugh. She's an active Catholic who enjoys spending time with her family. Hortense enjoys cooking, baking, trampoline, ice skating and going for walks.

Whether you are a young family, retired, a single parent, or empty nesters, hosting one of our students from countries like France, Italy, Ukraine, Denmark, and many others presents an extraordinary opportunity to personally experience their cultures and values while simultaneously sharing your own knowledge about the United States.

If you are interested, please contact the office.



## FAITH FORMATION

Parents-please register your children for faith formation this week or next so we can plan for materials.

## BUSCH GARDENS DAY

Parents-October 1st is Diocesan Busch Gardens Day. The Bishop says Mass and there is a meal served to all Catholics afterwards. Please read the hand-out and then see Ray about tickets.

## FELLOWSHIP HALL

We trust you have noticed the new tables and chairs in the hall. Recently, four pallets arrived and the Parish's teamsters group unpacked them in a heroic effort. Many thanks to our teamsters who were: Tom Dorman, Father Koo, Ray Kostas, Helen Linden, Gerrie and Frank Lohr, Andrea Moore, Gary Richardson and Joe Sychterz. The new chairs and tables were broken in at the recent Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast



Please pray for the following:

Katherine Nunn, Mike Lokie, Chris Smith



## PARISHIONERS

Barbara Smith, Annette Marcell, The Hollingsworth family, Don Tyrrell, David Rector, Lorraine Kirsch, Tom Shoemaker, Tom & Bea Foley, Jack & Laurie King, Shelley Katsuki, 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, Steve Kirsch, Marilynne Cerullo, Tom Hawksworth, Nancy Wirth, Bettie Hodge, Linda Gray & Pat Reamy, Andrea Moore, Lynn Vajda

## FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Anthony Pace, Mildred Bair, Mary Levine, Susie Maddrich, Carolyn Harvey, Eric Currie, Mike & Katy Shea, Rhonda Wells, Polly Beall, Dick Patton, Sue and Lisa Ferari, Barbara & Ron Burkhart, John Calvin Barnard, Joseph Borzelleca, Andy Hetzer, Sandy Alter, Ryan Jessee, Larry Hersh, Shirley Schultz, Dominick Perry.

## FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Richard & Sharon Fitts, Karen Armstrong, Kenny Marshall, Ann Chatos, Genie Kauffman, Page Wittkamp, Pattie Sobieski, Cliff Dean, Christopher Hutton, Mason Goodrich, Olga Hall, 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 or would like a Mass intention please call the office, email, or leave a note in the box outside the office. Remember to put family or friend by their name. You may offer Mass intentions for the living as well.

## BULLETIN ADS

Although today is the target date for new bulletin advertisements, we still have available spaces for your or a business friend's ad. Help us grow the Scholarship Fund by purchasing an annual ad in our weekly bulletin.

If you have any questions please see Tom Hawksworth or Andrea Moore.

## PARISH PENCE

Now that the pandemic has ended, the call of the needy for assistance has gradually increased these past few months. As an example, since June, we have helped seven families with rent, utilities, and lodging. Our program has been duplicated by other churches in the county and with the Cryer Center, provides a worthwhile safety net for county residents.

## COV ANNUAL REPORT

If you would like a copy of the Annual Parish Financial Report that was distributed/discussed on August 20, copies are available on the administration table in the Narthex.



## OUR LADY OF THE BAY COUNCIL 11210 OF MATHEWS AND MIDDLESEX COUNTIES

K of C is a not-for-profit organization whose principles are Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

Donations support:

Gloucester, Mathews, Northern Neck & Middlesex Free Health Clinics (KOVAR) Virginians with intellectual disabilities, the VA Veterans Services- Golf Tournament, Families in need, Hands Across Middlesex & Mathews, and The Father John Boddie Scholarship Fund.

Activities that provide funding:

Pancake Breakfast, Italian Feast, St. Pat's Dinner, KOVAR Collection, Dave Marchant Golf Tournament.

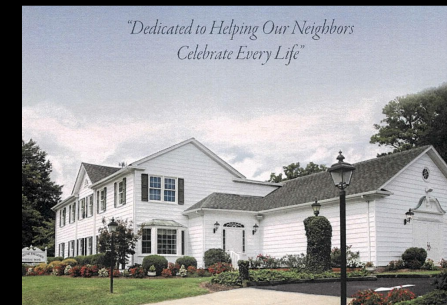
We are active participants in many ministries to include Alter servers, Choir members, Collection counter, Community Leaders, Eucharistic Ministers, Parish Council Members and Ushers.

The KOC meet at 5:15pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Church of the Visitation. We start with the Rosary.

All are welcome! Any questions call Our Grand Knight-Al Langer at 804-815-1328.

\*Sept. 22nd-Dave Marchant Golf Tournament @ Piankatank River Golf Club.

\*October-7th Italian Feast @COV must purchase tickets in advance.



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In Loving Memory  
of Bobby Warren

Your Family  
Arlene,  
L.C., Faye,  
Caitlyn & Courtlyn

"Gone but not to be forgotten"

In memory of

*Lillian M. Reiffel,*

Teacher



PRAYERS

MEMORIES

LOVE

Jerry  
McMurtrie

## 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 "Poppy" &  
Vinnie Recupido

The Recupido &  
Hollingsworth Families

"The Retirement Plan Of Christ  
Was His Passion.  
Is Yours The Same?"

Josiah Reffo



In  
Loving Memory  
Of

Alma and Fritz Sitterding

Supporting Our Youth

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

Lynne & Gary Richardson

Thanks for always supporting us in everything we do!

Emily & Anna 

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-Clarence D. Jones, Prop.-

WE WISH OUR YOUTH  
CLEAR SAILING  
  
DEBBY AND ED HARRIMAN

  
"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."  
-Benjamin Franklin  
Tom & Cindy Jessee

In support of our  
Future Leaders  
"Our Youth"  
The Kirsch Family

FOR OUR CHURCH KITTIES  
Choco, Tabby & Rufus  




In Loving Memory of  
Jack Petralia

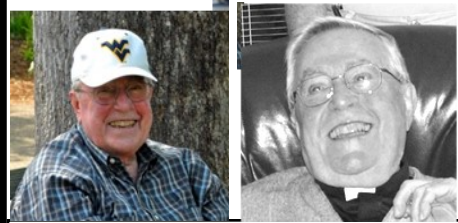

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In Loving Memory of  
Bob and Catherine Borden  
Fred and Betty Meister

We Support The Youth Scholarship  
  
John & Carol McCormack


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


  
In loving memory of our Father Bob Nash  
We love and miss you!  
Barb & Tori 

In Loving Memory of  
"Lee Hollingsworth"  
We love and miss you!  
Barb & Tori 


**BY THE BAY**  
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SAT: 10AM-6PM  
SUN: CLOSED

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

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


  
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  
Al Langer  
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OUR LADY OF THE BAY  
COUNCIL 11210

  
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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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