

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

8462 General Puller Highway
P.O. Box 38

Topping, Virginia 23169

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Fax: (804) 758-0676

E-Mail: office@COVTopping.org

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



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 12, 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 Kstesky

FINANCE COUNCIL

John Charbeneau
Lisa Forte
Debby Harriman
Ray Kstesky-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: Though the Mountains May Fall #437

"Loving and Forgiving" #664

Penitential Act: page 4

Lord Have Mercy #913

Glory To God #914

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

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

Second Reading: Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel Acclamation: Stay awake and be ready!

For you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Homily: Father Koo

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful: Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: The King Of Love My Shepard Is #468

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: In the Breaking of the Bread #184

Meditation: Parable #691

Recessional: Eternal Father Strong to Save #744

November Birthdays

1st-Frederic Cabocel, 2nd-Mel Placilla, 6th-David Morrison, 9th-Gary Brown, 10th-Colleen Quinn, 11th-Steve Forte, 16th-Skip Kramb, 18th-Robert Wilson, 19th-Cathy Davenport, 21st-Branch Meanley, 22nd-Lorie Messina, 24th-Dave Filippi, 25th-Quinn Kennedy & Ty Balch, 27th-Lynne Dreelin, Mary Foley & Laurie King, 29th-Bill Brandl, 30th-Andrea Moore

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



November Anniversaries

5th-Ralph and Helen Linden, 29th-Aldo & Leisa DeCollibus

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today: November 12th-32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time/Social Sunday

November 13th-Visitation Singers

November 19th-33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 23rd -Thanksgiving Day Mass 9am

November 26th-Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

December 3rd-1st Sunday of Advent

December 7th-Adoration-9:30-10:30am

December 8th-Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 9am

December 10th-2nd Sunday of Advent

December 11th-Visitation Singers

December 17th-3rd Sunday in Advent

December 24th-4th Sunday of Advent 9am

Christmas Eve Mass 7pm

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

THIS WEEKS ASSIGNMENTS: November 12, 2023

Sacristy Duty: S. Delagrange Community Leader: B. Puttmann

Altar Server: K. Kirsch /B. Smith Lectors: J. Sychterz/E. O'Brien

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: L. Petralia

Chalice: A. Wolski/D. Marcil/B. Plunkert

Music: J. McCormack

Counters: King/Kirsch/Angell

NEXT WEEKS ASSIGNMENTS: November 19, 2023

Sacristy Duty: C. Jessee Community Leader: J. Clair

Altar Server: R. Kstesky Lectors: B Nunn/M.E. Sherwood

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: D. Harriman

Chalice: Sychterz/S. Seay/L. Gray/TBD

Music: M. Krop

Counters: Tutak/Harvey

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from November 5, 2023

Collection: \$ 2,115

Second Collection: Debt Reduction \$ 685

Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 47,603

Total Budget Projection: \$ 46,621

Loan Balance \$ 155,050



Today the second collection is for Archdiocese of Military Service.

We signed the following principal checks this week:

\$853 A/C Repair; \$1,200 St Noah School \$229 October Electric.

LEGACY

The Apostle Paul, in his second letter to the church at Corinth, writes: "So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you, and arrange in advance for this bountiful gift that you have promised, so that it may be ready as a voluntary gift and not as an extortion." (2 Corinthians 9:5)



Paul indicates it is not enough to intend to be a good steward. You must plan, and it is by carefully making provisions for a planned gift and implementation of that plan that you will be able to enjoy the fruits of Christian stewardship!

Planning to include our church in your will involves more than just contacting an attorney and drafting a will. Making a bequest to our church involves thoughtful discussion with your family: spouse, children, perhaps siblings, and others with whom you have an important relationship and those who have a relationship to your estate.

Ultimately, making the right decision will allow you, the giver, to find greater joy and fulfillment in the process and completion of the gift.

RECURRING EVENTS



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

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

1st-Thursday of the month-Adoration 9:30am-10:30am (Cindy Jessee)

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

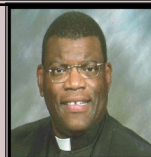
3rd-Wednesday of the month-K of C meeting starts 5:15pm (Al Langer)

**SUPPORTER OF
OUR SCHOLARSHIP**

Vera & John England
Christine & Peggy Williams
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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

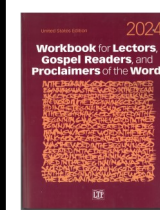
Application deadline: Early March 2023

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



LECTOR WORKBOOKS

Lector workbooks are labeled and ready for pickup located on the Admin table in the Narthex. If you have any question please see Louise Petralia.

THANKS AND GRATITUDE

After a decade and a half of faithful and endearing custodial service to our church, Pat Reamy is resigning from her weekly chores. Pat was a devoted, dependable individual who preformed her tasks with meticulous perfection and concern. She remain as a parishioner devoted to serving with reverence and piety.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

As announced recently, we have a new email address. Our address is now: office@COVtopping.org

Mail sent to the former address for Church of the Visitation will continue to be forwarded to our new address for an undetermined length of time.



DIRECTORY

Our directory pictures are completed and the bulk of the administrative work lies ahead of us. Individual pictures are due within 4-6 weeks and the directory itself, 4-6 months. We regret that all of our parishioners did not participate in the picture taking.

Those who were unable to have their picture taken by the photographer, but who want to have your family picture included in the final product can do so by submitting your desired photo to the office.

There is a small fee for inclusion (not our rule). If you have any questions, please contact a member of the directory committee (Pat Marchant, Helen Linden, Lynne Richardson, or Andrea Moore).

NOVEMBER MEMORIALS



During the entire month of November, we honor our beloved friends and families that are departed. Please stop by the table in the Narthex and fill out a purple slip with your loved one's names and place it in the small

basket. The basket with the names will be placed on the altar during all Masses said during the month of November.

You may also provide photos of your loved ones for display in the designated basket.



REGRETS

With deep regret, we announce the death list Wednesday of Eileen Wagner. A parishioner for 21 years, Eileen was in charge of the Justice and Peace Ministry for many years and watered the flowers in the church until natural causes forced her to give it up. We have no information yet about Funeral or other plans.



BEHIND THE SCENES



The volunteer services of our parishioners are extraordinary and provide the framework for a healthy and strong religious community.

Many of you know the ministry heads and observe the persons who each Sunday provide a visible presence of their church and parish commitment. But what about those who do the "behind the scenes" tasks that help enrich our community? Frequently we will highlight these invisible ones for your information.

Today we honor Helen Linden. We all know her from her work with the Parish Life Crew and the directory, but for several months she has been folding the bulletin and more importantly, doing the preliminary bulletin work on Thursdays and manning the office as a pinch-hitter for Andrea.

We thank you sincerely, Helen!

OYSTERFEST BREAD SALES

Many thanks to Peggy Williams and the dozens of bread bakers who contributed to the success of our project. We had 103 loaves to sell and table runners made by Eileen O'Brien. We ere sold out by 2PM, each day. Peggy decorated the breads in addition to leading the effort. Helen Linden helped her decorate and Barbara Smith and she helped man our booth. Our thanks again to Peggy, Eileen, Helen, Barbara and the dozens of COV chefs. Counting the sweet pickled squash sale in September, our total proceeds were \$1,911. Here are a few emails received over the weekend:

Hi there. Just wanted to pass along a big thank you for the yummy sweet potato bread we bought from the nice ladies selling it on Friday at the Urbanna Oyster Festival. I'm hoping it'll be back next year and I may buy two, one to eat right away and another to freeze. Thank you and have a wonderful Fall. Audrey

We purchased one of your Butter Lemon Buttermilk with Blueberries Pound Cakes at the Urbanna Oyster Festival on Saturday and it was absolutely magnificent !!!

I was wondering if you would possibly share your recipe ?
Nancy Thanks so much for your time !!

Take Home Lesson

November 12, 2023

ACTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

In today's first reading, scripture scholar Catherine Cory comments wisdom is presented as a personified, feminine power of God. Resplendent and unfading, wisdom is readily perceived by those who love her, and found by those who seek her. Whoever watches for her at dawn shall not be disappointed and whoever keeps vigil for her sake shall quickly be free from care. These themes of seeking, watching and keeping vigil appear again in today's Gospel reading as Jesus tells the parable of the ten virgins. The message of the parable is straightforward: Be prepared!

In first century Jewish communities, a weddings would go on for several days, and included the process of transferring the bride from her father's home to her husband's home, where witnesses were needed for the consummation of the marriage. We can presume that the ten virgins are such witnesses and they will accompany the bride and groom into the banquet area. Unfortunately, five of these girls did not prepare sufficiently for the delay of the bridegroom. One interpretation of the parable is as an allegory for the return of the risen Christ. Because they had to go and purchase more oil for their lamps, the unready virgins missed the opportunity to accompany the bridal couple when they joined the wedding banquet. They were not allowed into the feast later, because the bridegroom did not know who they were.

The wise maidens say they may not have enough oil to share, but scripture scholar Barbara Reid suggests if we think of their lamps as good deeds that are visible to others and lead to praise of God, then it is not possible to share that oil. The wise maidens are those who have faithfully prepared for the end time. No one can supply this preparation for another. One is either ready or not for the eschatological moment.

Jesus said, "Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour." (Matthew 25:13)

The Catechism teaches that Christ is always present in his Church, especially in her liturgical celebrations. He is present in the Mass, especially in the Eucharistic species. He is present in his word when the holy Scriptures are read. And he is present when the Church prays and sings, for he has promised "where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them." (CCC 0188)

Recognizing that we meet Christ sometimes when we least expect it, this week we ask:

How can you be ready to see Jesus Christ in all the ways He is present?

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Eucharist: Sacred Meal, Sacrifice, Real Presence

During October and November, some parishioners are meeting in small groups to study our most holy and perfect sacrament. Please continue to watch this space for reflections and commentary about the Eucharist.

While our study group was considering the theme of Sacred Meal, we discussed how Bishop Barron presents the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes (see Matthew 14:13-21) as a wonderful depiction of the "Loop of Grace," in which our ultimate, thankful sacrifice leads to God's overflowing grace. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus withdraws after hearing of John the Baptist's death, but he is pursued by the crowds. The initial response of the disciples is to dismiss the crowds. Instead of scattering the crowds, Jesus gathers them in, and suggests the disciples should feed them. A very small amount of food is found, and they give it to Jesus. Jesus takes their small offering, and returns it to them, multiplied thousands of times over.

The "Loop of Grace" is explained this way: God offers, as a sheer grace, the gift of being, but if we try to cling to that gift and make it our own (in the manner of Adam and Eve), we lose it. The constant command of the Bible is this: what you have received as a gift, give as a gift - and you will find the original gift multiplied and enhanced. God's grace, precisely because it is grace, cannot be held on to; rather, it can be had only if it remains a gift given away.

In the Mass, we offer the bread and wine to Christ through the priest as a symbol of the fruits of our labor - our "best" to Him. He then accepts our offering and transforms it through the consecration, giving it back to us as the Body and Blood of Christ, multiplied to feed the entire Eucharistic assembly. Our humble gift is accepted and returned to us, transformed to become what we never would have expected - namely an offering of simple bread and wine transformed into the grace necessary for salvation.

Adam and Even interrupted this loop of grace by their original sin. In attempting to decide for themselves what should be given to them, rather than trusting that God had given them all that they needed, they made themselves into gods. We, too, make this same decision every time we sin, interrupting the bestowal of the beautiful, whole, all-encompassing gift of participation that God desires to give us.



Please pray for the following:

Eileen Wagner, Jim Hazel, Bill Brown, Ruth Mangrum, Tom Farrell, Elizabeth O'Brien, Elaine Wallenburg & Alma Sitterding



PARISHIONERS

Lynne, Dreelin, Paula Wilson, John & Carol McCormack, Lynne McMurtrie, Barbara Smith, 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

Chole Pearson, Mia Angelis, the Angelis family, John & Debbie StockhorMartha Buesinger, Jane Butcher, Becky Pattarozzi, Bridgie Graham-Smith, Joanne Ferrari, Jill Shores, John Gahagan, Todd Bowmam, Diane Petralia, Anthony Pace, Mildred Bair, Mary Levine, Susie Maddrich, Carolyn Harvey, Eric Currie, Mike & Katy Shea, Rhonda Wells, Polly Beall, Dick Patton, Sue and Lisa Ferrari, Barbara & Ron Burkhart, John Calvin Barnard, Joseph Borzelleca, Andy Hetzer, Sandy Alter, Ryan Jessee, Larry Hersh, Shirley Schultz, Dominick Perry.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Cynthia Freeburger, Mike Gorin, Carroll Brown, Robin Brown, Boyd Newhouse, Bill Benson, Mike McCullean, Delores Barry, Jim Durburo, 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.

FLORAL DESIGN AND ARRANGING

Do you have a talent for floral design? If so, please consider joining the Arts & Environment Committee. We need your help in creating floral arrangements for the altar several times per year. Please contact Cindy Jessee at 804-510-4688 or cindyjessee6@gmail.com if you are interested. Thank you.



Operation Christmas Child

ONLY A FEW WEEKS LEFT UNTIL NATIONAL SHOEBOX COLLECTION WEEK. WE NEED YOUR HELP COLLECTING ITEMS TO FILL THE SHOEBOXES



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:

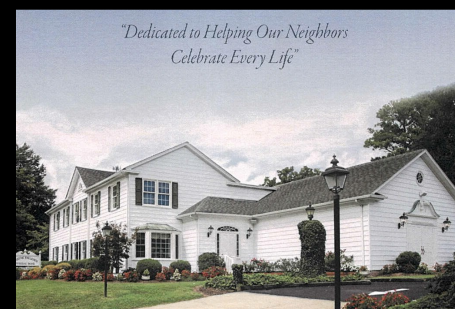
Pancake Breakfast, Italian Feast, St. Pat's Dinner, KOVAR Collection, Dave Marchant Golf Tournament.

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.



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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

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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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WE WISH OUR YOUTH
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DEBBY AND ED HARRIMAN


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

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Fred and Betty Meister


We Support The Youth Scholarship


John & Carol McCormack

In Memory of
Thomas R. Shepherd, Jr. 8/28/1943 to 3/18/2020
Thomas R. Shepherd III 11/05/1970 to 3/31/2022

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My Love of My Life

Jenny

In loving memory of
Marty Hawksworth

Tom & Sharon

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Limerick II Enterprises
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Tom Shoemaker
In Memory of JoAn

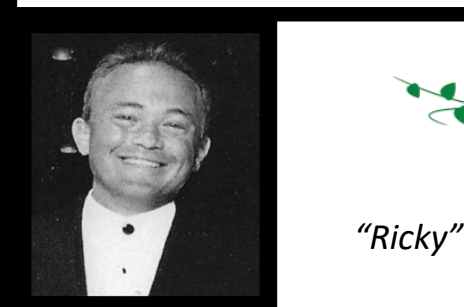

Kenneth Anderson
"Say not in grief 'he is no more' but in thankfulness that he was".



Lewis Forte

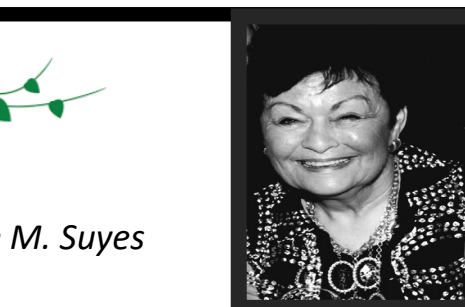
Thank you for supporting our education
Michael, Colin, Kathryn, John & Kevin Walsh


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

Best wishes to all the youth at Church of the Visitation
Mary Virginia & Tom Bliley

BE A KNIGHT
Contact: Grand Knight
Al Langer
804-815-3515

OUR LADY OF THE BAY
COUNCIL 11210


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Douglas Arthur Nelson Nunn
"Our Beloved Sons"
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