

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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Topping, Virginia 23169

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E-Mail: office@COVTopping.org

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



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 19, 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: 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: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

Responsorial Psalm: Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Second Reading: Thessalonians 5:1-6

Gospel Acclamation: Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me bears much fruit.

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Homily: Father Koo

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 you come again.

Lord's Prayer: page 26

Lamb of God: #922

Communion: God's Holy Gifts #344

Meditation: Eye Has Not Seen #473

Recessional: River of Glory #652



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 19-33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time/Social Sunday
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 13th- Reconciliation 7PM
December 17th-3rd Sunday in Advent
December 24th-4th Sunday of Advent 9am
Christmas Eve Mass 7pm
December 25th-Christmas Day Mass 9am

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

THIS WEEKS ASSIGNMENTS: November 19, 2023

Sacristy Duty: C. Jessee

Community Leader: J. Clair

Altar Server: R. Kostaskey

Lectors: B Nunn/M.E. Sherwood

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: D. Harriman

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

Music: M. Krop

Counters: Tutak/Harvey

NEXT WEEKS ASSIGNMENTS: November 26, 2023

Sacristy Duty: N. Harvey

Community Leader: G. Richardson

Altar Server: B. Smith

Lectors: R. Kostaskey/T. Shoemaker

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: D. Harriman

Chalice: A. Wolski/D. Marcil/N. Harvey

Music: Jan Smith

Counters: Harris/Hollingsworth

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from November 12, 2023

Collection:	\$ 2,445
Second Collection: Archdiocese	\$ 465
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 50,048
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 48,869
Loan Balance	\$ 147,055



There is no second collection today.

We signed the following principal checks this week:
\$1,279 Pastor & Rectory Expenses for October; \$1,682 Diocesan Assessment.

LEGACY

Catholics can use their estates to demonstrate one final act of stewardship. Our possessions are gifts from God, and God has intended for us to use them wisely throughout our lifetimes. Through our estate plans, we can provide for our loved ones while also making a faithful distribution back to God to further God's work. We will be remembered by our giving.



Consider God's call on your life as you plan to distribute your estate. Creating an estate plan is good stewardship. Does your Last Will and Testament reflect YOUR faith?

We owe our children and grandchildren an example of lives lived with integrity and willingness to learn and grow and remain faithful to the Christian values we proclaim. What better example could we offer than including our church in our estate plans?

Some one told me once they had never seen a hearse with a hitch trailer behind it. Guess if we cant take it with us, we might as well decide how and where it is left behind.

Remember your church's mission in your estate planning.

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)

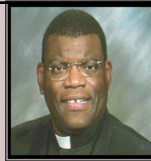
3rd-Wednesday of the month-K of C meeting starts 5:15pm (Al Langer)

**SUPPORTER OF
OUR SCHOLARSHIP**

Vera & John England
Christine & Peggy Williams
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

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



LOOKING AHEAD

Advent will begin slightly late this year on December 3rd and ending on Christmas Eve Sunday. As normal, we will publish an Advent Calendar and have the little blue books of 10 Minute Advent Reflections for your use. Please take one book per household.

The peculiarities of the calendar mean that those persons opting to attend Mass on Christmas Eve will attend Mass twice that day; once in the morning for the 4th Sunday of Advent, and again in the evening for the Christmas Eve Mass.



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 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.

Thank you

ANGEL TREE

It's that time of the year, time for planning for Christmas. Our Angel Tree children are children of individuals who are incarcerated in the Regional Jail in Saluda.



We have made one change for the gifts to children 13 years or older in our Angel Tree program. We will be purchasing restricted gift cards from Walmart. So if you pick one of those children, determine how much you want to give that child, do not purchase the card yourself, we will purchase the card for you. You can pay by cash or check made out to COV, include a Christmas card unsealed & the star for that child.

For children under 13, pick one or all of their requests, wrap all presents separately & place all the presents in a gift bag with the star securely attached to the outside of the bag.

Please considering paring up with another parishioner. Also we will except monetary donations for Food Lion gift cards. With the help of the Knights of Columbus, we will see that every family has the opportunity to provide a special dinner for the children for Christmas.

Due date for gifts is December 14th

If you have any questions, contact Mary Sychterz @ 804-815-0353 or mlsychterz@yahoo.com.

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 *Dave Marcil* and *Mary Ellen Sherwood*. During the grueling hot summer months, Dave steadfastly cared for our many outdoor plantings, ensuring they were weed-free. We all know how difficult that can be.

For years, Mary Ellen has tended the plantings under the Church sign and she continues to care for that area with devotion.

We thank them both for their commitment to excellence.

CHRIST THE KING OF THE UNIVERSE



Christ the King Sunday (next Sunday) is celebrated on the last Sunday of Ordinary Time before the beginning of Advent that starts the new Church Year. As the last Sunday of the Christian Church Year, Christ the King Sunday is the climax and conclusion of the Church's liturgical journey through the life of Christ and the Gospel message.

Its purpose is to celebrate the coming reign of Christ as King of the Earth and his completion of the renewed creation that marks the fullness of the Kingdom of God. That hope is born from the entire life of Christ and his teachings that have been celebrated in the seasons of the Church Year during the past twelve months.

In celebrating the Reign of Christ the King, this Sunday also provides an appropriate bridge to the new Church Year that begins the following Sunday on the first Sunday of Advent with an emphasis on hope and expectation, the longing for the coming of the Kingdom of God amid the darkness of a sinful world.

SOCIAL SUNDAY

We thank the kitchen crew for preparing a satisfying and stayed late. Kudos to Johnna Harris and her helpers, K Hayes, Frank Lohr (coffee maker and trash removal), and I

Two weeks from today, on December 3rd we will have our church will provide the main dish and appetizers. Please bring others on this festive occasion.

Take Home Lesson

November 19, 2023

Using Your Gifts

Today's first reading from the Book of Proverbs present the image of the worthy wife. Scripture scholar Catherine Cory comments that the skills and virtues of this strong woman can be seen as concrete and visible image of Lady Wisdom. The wisdom literature of the Bible portrays Lady Wisdom as the power of God who is ever-present and active in the world, a radiant light, the breath of God's might, and a pure emanation of God's glory.

Please notice especially this verse: "She reaches out her hand to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy." (Proverbs 31:20) A few weeks ago, Father Koo used the image of a baby born with clenched fists, but in the end those hands will open up. Open and outstretched hands are often a sign of surrender, of giving up, of sacrifice. Open hands are also a gesture of gift giving. Watch how the priest places his open hands over our gifts to God during Mass, saying: "Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The theme of giving continues in today's Gospel. The servant entrusted with five talents, said, "Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more." His master said to him, "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy."

Why does the master call the two servants "good and faithful?" Because, when entrusted with a vast amount of money (a talent was worth 20 years of wages), they do not run off and spend the money on themselves; rather, they invest what was given them as a way of honoring their relationship with their master.

Meanwhile, the third servant is punished for being lazy. While we are waiting for the master to return, perhaps the worst thing we can do is sit around being lazy. What will you do to help advance the coming reign of God until its full glory will be revealed in the end time?

Or, more simply, this week, our question is in two parts:

What gift has God given you? What do you want to do with it?

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.

The second theme explored by our study group was The Eucharist as Sacrifice. Bishop Barron begins his discussion by reminding us, "In a world gone wrong, there is no communion without sacrifice." Sacrifice is essential to understanding salvation history as a divine rescue mission that returns humanity to the fellowship Adam and Eve had with God prior to the Fall. In contrast to the disobedience of Adam and Eve, Abram becomes an obedient servant. He models sacrifice, leaves his home at an advanced age and is prepared to sacrifice his only son before God's messenger intervenes. Since Abram is obedient, God will soon make a covenant with him, ratifying it with a ceremony centered on animal sacrifice.

God works with his chosen people through various covenants, looking for obedience but his people always fall short. No matter how many times the covenant was taught, renewed, or reaffirmed, it was broken by stubborn Israel, "a stiff-necked people." No matter how many animal and grain sacrifices were offered in the temple, Yahweh was still not properly honored and the people still not interiorly reformed.

In the New Testament, Jesus is the one who plays the role of the sacrificial lambs offered in the temple and becomes the "once and for all sacrifice" (Hebrews 9:26). In accord with the formula, "no communion without sacrifice," Jesus, the covenant in person, is also the sacrificial victim that seals the New Covenant. He is the "Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

The Mass can be understood as a re-presentation of the sacrifice of Jesus, bringing the power of the cross to bear in the present. Due to the eternity of Christ, there is indeed a kind of collapsing of the dimension of time at the Mass, present meeting past and past anticipating the future.

The Eucharist is the sacrifice of right worship through which we share in the Divine Life. By transforming us, it will transform the world.

PLAUDITS

enjoyable Social Sunday. The crew came early Kari Lee Donovan, Dottie Edwards, Germaine Debbie McNeil.

Christmas Social after Mass. Like last year, the bring a side dish and/or desert to share with



Please pray for the following:

Eileen Wagner, Dick Zimmerman, Rita Lecompte, Theresa LaBrier



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

Gloria Powell, Chloe Pearson, Barbara Daly, Mia Angelis, the Angelis family, John & Debbie Stockhorst, Martha Buesinger, Jane Butcher, Bridgie Graham-Smith, Joanne Ferari, 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 Ferari, 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.



A Hearty Welcome to our new parishioners



Lisenka & Elena Wunder
440 Brent Place
Kilmarnock, VA 22482
lisenkaw@hotmail.com
907-250-8365
mariaelenadingo@gmail.com
931-704-6095

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.



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

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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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

Michael W. Garrett Theresa R. Pace
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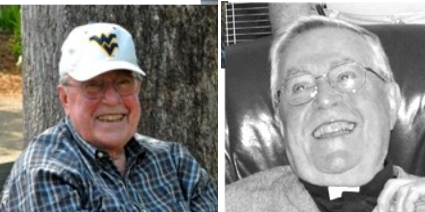
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In Loving Memory of
Bob and Catherine Borden
Fred and Betty Meister

We Support The Youth Scholarship

John & Carol McCormack

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



In loving memory of our Father Bob Nash


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

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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

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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