

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: office@COVTopping.org

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



Our Lord Jesus Christ King Of The Universe

November 26, 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: Crown Him With Many Crowns #733

"Loving and Forgiving" #664

Penitential Act: page 4

Lord Have Mercy #913

Glory To God #914

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd,
there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: Corinthians 15:20-26,28

Gospel Acclamation: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Homily: Father Koo

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful: Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: Like a Shepherd #616

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: Come Ye Thankful People Come #209

Meditation: For You Are My God #448

Recessional: Holy God We Praise Thy Name #197



December Birthdays

1st-Tom Shoemaker, 4th-Mike Ballato, 5th-Louise Petralia,
8th-Frank Lohr, 12th-Jerry Suyes, 16th-Cindy Powers,
17th-Ivony Kennedy, 18th-Mary Dorman & Lynne McMurtrie,
19th-Lois Kramb, 22nd-Linda Gray, 23rd-Christine Williams,
24th-Elena Wunder, 25th-Colleen Hoffman, 26th-Tom Hawksworth
& Debbie McNeil, 27th-Patricia Figueroa & Betsy Brown, 31st-Doug Olsen.

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



December Anniversaries

1st-Chuck & Carol Walsh, 8th-Robert & Paula Wilson,
14th-Bob & Ingrid Borden, 22nd-Branch & Michele Meanley,
30th-Bill & Donna Brandl

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today-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

Sing-a-long 6:30pm/Christmas Eve Mass 7pm

December 25th-Christmas Day Mass 9am

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

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

THIS WEEKS ASSIGNMENTS: December 3, 2023

Sacristy Duty: S. Delagrang Community Leader: G. Richardson

Altar Server: J. Sychterz Lectors: E O'Brien/J Weidner

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: TBA

Chalice: TBA

Music: F. Lohr

Counters: O'Brien/Smith

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from November 19, 2023

Collection: \$ 2,277

Second Collection:

Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 52,325

Total Budget Projection: \$ 51,117

Loan Balance \$ 147,055

Our second collection today is for Christmas Flowers.

We signed the following principal checks this week:

\$832 Collection Envelopes; \$175 E-giving fees.



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)

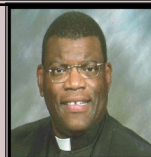
3rd-Wednesday of the month-K of C meeting starts 5:15pm (Al Langer)

**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 beginning next week and ending on Christmas Eve Sunday.

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.

As our tradition, we will begin Mass with the singing of the Advent Candle Song. Available on the admin table will be the little blue books (6 minute daily meditations) and an Advent calendar for your use. Please take one of each home to help you prepare for His coming.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

General Background on the Season

Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by the First coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight (Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year).

With the beginning of Advent is, too the beginning of the new liturgical year (2024).

Music and Environment

During Advent, the playing of the organ and other musical instruments, as well as the floral decoration of the altar, should be marked with a moderation that reflects the character of this season, but does not anticipate the full joy of Christmas itself. The secular world focuses on decorating, shopping, and rushing towards the celebration of Christmas. However, the Church gives us the Season of Advent as a way to practice discipline and patience in preparation for the great mystery of the Birth of Christ. Projecting the celebration of Christmas onto a season that is to be marked by waiting and spiritual preparation seems to miss the point of Advent. Therefore, church environments should not reflect this kind of thinking and the integrity of Advent is to be kept without the additions of environmental elements indicative of the Christmas Season, i.e. Christmas trees or a manger.

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 (today) 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

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Next Sunday we will have our Christmas Social after Mass. Like last year, the church will provide the main dish and appetizers. Please bring a side dish and/or desert to share with others on this festive occasion.



Take Home Lesson

The Final Judgment

November 19, 2023

The Catechism teaches that Christ Jesus is present in many ways to his Church. While he is present most especially in the Eucharistic species, he is also present in his word, in his Church's prayer, "where two or three are gathered in my name," in the sacraments of which he is the author, in the sacrifice of the Mass, and in the person of the minister. (CCC 1373)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, is also present in the poor, the sick and the imprisoned. And he tells us in today's Gospel how important it is for us to recognize him in these least ones.

When the King comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will assemble before him. He tells us how we are to be judged. "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 26:40)

Jesus again compares himself to a lowly, humble shepherd, except this time the shepherd is separating the sheep from the goats. Scripture scholar Catherine Cory explains that the term translated as "goats" means something more like "little woolly creatures" that are not fully grown and have not reached their full potential, so they are less desirable. These goats are not ready to enter God's kingdom.

At the final judgment, you are either ready to enter God's kingdom or you are not. What is the measure of readiness? It is that you have performed corporal works of mercy - feeding the hunger, giving drink to the thirsty, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick and prisoners, burying the dead, and giving alms to the poor.

Christ, as the Divine Logos, is present throughout all of creation because he is the fount of all being. The recognition of truth, beauty, and goodness in all beings is an indirect recognition of the Logos. All human life is precious and fragile, and a Church that rallies around the disadvantaged, the homeless, the naked, the defenseless, and the vulnerable is the kind of Church that Christ intended to build.

Reflecting on how Jesus identified himself with the poor, the sick and the imprisoned, our question this week is once again in two parts:

Who are the least of your sisters and brothers for whom you care?
Who are those whom you ignore?



ANGEL TREE

A big thank you to all who picked up stars from the Angel Tree. If you still want to help but were unable to select a star, please consider donating for the food gift cards that help the families provide a Christmas Dinner.

Due date for gifts is December 14th.

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



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Eucharist: Sacred Meal, Sacrifice, Real Presence

During October and November, a few parishioners met in small groups to study our most holy and perfect sacrament. Our study concluded on Wednesday morning, November 15. Please continue to watch this space for questions with answers as well as personal testimony from several folks who participated in the study groups.

The third theme our groups explored was Real Presence in The Eucharist. Elsewhere in this bulletin, this week's Take Home Lesson references the Catechism teaching on the various ways Christ is present to his Church, but most especially in the Eucharistic species. (CCC 1373)

The Catechism teaches that the mode of Christ's presence under the Eucharistic species is unique. It raises the Eucharist above all the sacraments as "the perfection of the spiritual life and the end to which all the sacraments tend." In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist "the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained." "This presence is called 'real' - by which is not intended to exclude the other types of presence as if they could not be 'real' too, but because it is presence in the fullest sense: that is to say, it is a substantial presence by which Christ, God and man, makes himself wholly and entirely present." (CCC 1374)

Bishop Robert Barron's study of The Eucharist presents the following:

Question: How does receiving and communing with Christ through his Body and Blood support the unity of his Mystical Body, the Church (CCC 787-789, 1396)?

Answer: Christ said, "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him" (John 6:56). The Eucharist is God's chosen means by which we commune with Christ, and by communing with Christ we indirectly commune with all those who participate in the Body of Christ, the Church. This communion with Christ is called the Mystical Body, a living community gathered around Christ and united in him, with him, and through him.

The Catechism's glossary adds that the Church is called the mystical Body of Christ because of the intimate communion which Jesus shares with his disciples; the metaphor of a head is Christ and whose members are the faithful, provides an image which keeps in focus the unity and the diversity of the Church.

SOCIAL SUNDAY PLAUDITS

We thank the kitchen crew for preparing a satisfying and enjoyable Social Sunday. The crew came early and stayed late. Kudos to Johnna Harris and her helpers, Kari Lee Donovan, Dottie Edwards, Germaine Hayes, Frank Lohr (coffee maker and trash removal), and Debbie McNeil.



Please pray for the following:

Bill Gray, Bob Hartman, Mike Melancon, John Banks, Bill Marks & Richard Skovera



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 Burkhardt, John Calvin Barnard, Joseph Borzelleca, Andy Hetzer, Sandy Alter, Ryan Jessee, Larry Hersh, Shirley Schultz, Dominick Perry.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Allison Miksenas, 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 Goynes, 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

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

For an evening of enjoyable entertainment at the start of the Christmas Season, consider attending a performance of the Chesapeake Chorale. The information is 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:

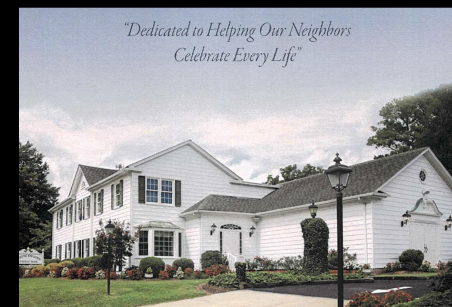
Pancake Breakfast, Italian Feast, St. Pat's Dinner, KOVAR Collection, Dave Marchant Golf Tournament.

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.



"Dedicated to Helping Our Neighbors Celebrate Every Life"

Faulkner Funeral Homes
& Cremation Services

PO Box 228

Saluda, VA 23149

bhogge@faulknerfuneralhcs.com

804-758-2315



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

"DOC" JONES Since 1970
Pre-Tested New & Used Auto & Truck Parts
-Junk Cars Removed-
Hours: 9AM-1PM
Closed Monday/Sunday/Holidays/Rainy Days
Route 3, Box 205, Hartfield, VA 23071
Phone:(804) 776-6900 FAX:(804) 776-9330
Toll Free: 1-800-552-4035
-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

Michael W. Garrett Theresa R. Pace
Owner Owner
SHORE SHINE LLC
"GET YOUR SHINE ON!"
804-832-6080 Licensed & Insured



FREE ESTIMATES
• Soft Washing • Gutter Cleaning
• House Washing • Gutter Brightening
• Roof Washing • Surface Cleaning
Commercial & Residential
shoreshinellc@gmail.com





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

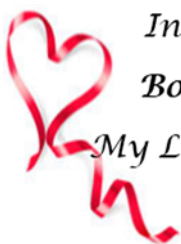
In Loving Memory of
"Lee Hollingsworth"
We love and miss you!
Barb & Tori

BY THE BAY STAINED GLASS
Al Langer 804-815-1328


MUSTARDSEEDMARKETVA.COM
804-684-5389
Nothing Artificial Farm Fresh
Real Food Eat well Live well
Mustard Seed Natural Market
M-F: 10AM-6PM 4858 GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL HWY. HAYES, VA 23072
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
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



Ballato LAW FIRM, PC
• Business Law and Collections
• Landlord Tenant Law
• Simple Wills & Powers of Attorney
• Traffic Violations
Michael B. Ballato, Attorney
~ Serving Clients Since 1980 ~
3721 Westerre Parkway Henrico, VA 23233
(804) 433-1060
www.BallatoLaw.com



In memory of
Michael Tebbs Nunn & Douglas Arthur Nelson Nunn
"Our Beloved Sons"
Spike and Becky Nunn

True Value
HURD'S, INC.
Where Shopping Is Fun
Deltaville, VA 23043 (804) 776-9241