

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



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 28, 2024 Year B

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: open
Religious Education: Zaida Wohleking
Parish Life: Johnna Harris
RCIA/Adult Formation: John Weidner
Pastoral Care: Lynne Richardson
Administration: Ray Kostaskey

FINANCE COUNCIL

John Charbeneau
Anne Wolski
Debby Harriman
Ray Kostaskey-Chairman
Fritz Sitterding

PARISH COUNCIL

Kevin Hayes
Cindy Jessee-Vice Chair
Steve Kirsch
Helen Linden
Roseanne Moncure-Secretary
Cindy Powers
Tom Jessee
Shelley Katsuki
John Weidner-Chair

Church Secretary, Andrea Moore
Webmaster/IT, Mike Dreelin

MASS/MUSIC

Entrance: Blest Be the Lord #448

"Loving and Forgiving" #662

Penitential Act: page 4

Lord Have Mercy #914

Glory To God #915

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Responsorial Psalm: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel Acclamation: The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light; on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death, light has arisen.

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

Homily: Father Koo

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: In Every Age #474

Holy: #918

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: #923

Communion: Eat This Bread #330

Meditation: Be Not Afraid #439

Recessional: Tell the Good News #381



February Birthdays

2nd- Monique Donner; 4th- Dimitri Angell; 5th- Marisa Bonanno;
7th- Jen Clair; 9th- Bea Foley; 12th Kari Lee Donavon;
13th- Robert Borden; 17th- Loretta Borostovik, Felicity Hartlove
and Gina Putney; 19th- Robert Smith; 25th- Mary Bliley and
Brennan Williams; 26th- Barbara Smith, Gretchen Borzelleca and
Annabel Clair.

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



February Anniversaries

14th- Joseph and Mary Sychterz; 15th- Donna and Thomas Lange;
25th- Michael and Lynn Dreelin.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today- 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 2nd- Groundhog Day
February 3rd- Funeral Mass Eileen Wagner- 11:00am/COV
February 4th- 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 11th- 6th Sunday on Ordinary Time/Social Sunday
February 12th- Visitation Singers
February 14th- Ash Wednesday/Valentines Day
February 18th- 1st Sunday of Lent
February 19th- Presidents Day

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

January 28, 2024

Sacristy Duty: Delagrange

Community Leader: McCormack

Altar Server: Kirsch

Lectors: Shoemaker/Sherwood

Eucharistic Ministers:

Hosts: Wolski

Chalice: Harriman

Music: Krop

Counters: Harriman/Hock

February 4, 2024

Sacristy Duty: Delagrange

Community Leader: D. Harriman

Altar Server: J. Sychterz

Lectors: O'Brien/Dorman

Eucharistic Ministers:

Hosts: DeGroot

Chalice: Donovan/Sychterz/Weidner

Music: J. McCormack

Counters: O'Brien/Smith

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from January 21, 2024

Collection: \$ 2,690

Second Collection: Respect for Life \$ 395

Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 74,774

Total Budget Projection: \$ 70,222

Loan Balance: \$ 141,334

There is no second collection today.

We signed the following principal checks this week:
\$3,646 for Security Camera Final Bill; \$201 for RCIA supplies.



LEGACY

Have circumstances changed since you last updated your estate plan? Do your current estate planning documents carry out your commitments to your Church? If not, amend your documents now.

Did you know that over 50% of all people at the time of their death do not have a will or living trust?

Do you know who your heirs will be? Is your Church included in your will? Without a will, State law will determine who receives your estate and no charity will receive a gift from your estate. Be sure your estate planning is up-to-date and expresses your wishes.



RECURRING EVENTS

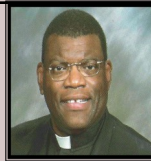
Weekly-Sunday 8:30am-New Worship Area Rosary (Cindy Jessee)
Weekly-COV Gals-1st Friday @ month, other weeks on Thursdays @9:45am (Louise Petralia/Eileen O'Brien)
1st-Thursday of the month-Adoration 9:30am-10:30am (Cindy Jessee)
2nd-Monday of the month-Visitation Singers 9:30am (Carol McCormack)
3rd-Wednesday of the month-K of C meeting starts 5:15pm (Al Langer)
2nd & 4th-Mondays each month at 1:00pm Shawl Ministry (Sandi Delagrange)

**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 Biley
Dan & Linda Peterson
Frank & Terry Sisto
Gene & Anne Wolski
Mr. & Mrs. Donald S. Ross

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 2024**

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

EILEEN WAGNER MASS OF RESURRECTION



With regret, we announce the death of Eileen on November 1, 2023, and her upcoming Mass of Resurrection.

Eileen will be remembered for her faithful commitment to the Church, especially with regard to the Justice and Peace Ministry and her love of taking care of our plants.

Eileen's Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated on Saturday, February 3, 2024 at 11:00 am.

PRAYER LIST REFRESH

It is customary to refresh our prayer lists in January each year. We do not change the "Parishioner" list, but ask that you confirm the names you placed on the "Family of Parishioners" and "Friends of Parishioners" lists by the end of January. Send us an email or drop us a note in the office with the names you desire to remain.



Thank you

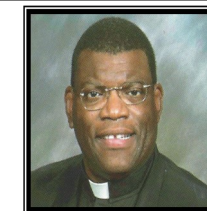
FUEL AND HUNGER GRANT

Recently, the Diocese informed us we had been awarded a \$3,000 Grant from the Fuel and Hunger fund for the use of our Parish Pence fund. This is the eighth consecutive year we have received an award, and we are blessed to be a recipient. As a point of interest, the Fuel and Hunger Fund is supported by the Annual Appeal and is a reason in itself to consider donating to the appeal. Thank you Ray for submitting for the grant.



**APPROACHING DEADLINE FOR
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS**

The deadline for anyone interested in applying for a Father John Boddie Scholarship for post high school education is early March, 2024.



The Website for the scholarship application can be found at www.church-of-the-visitation.org.

TAX STATEMENTS FOR 2023

If you desire a tax statement for this year, please place your name on the writing tablet located on the table in the Narthex.



**TWO GALLON BEVERAGE
DISPENSER MISSING**



The kitchen is missing a 2 gallon beverage dispenser that is needed to meet the Parish Life needs of COV. It seems to have disappeared around the beginning of October. If we don't find it, we will need to purchase a replacement. If you happened to borrow it for the holidays, please return it to the Church.

Thank You.

**LOOKING AHEAD TO THE
LENTEN SEASON**

Lent begins early this year with Ash Wednesday falling on February 14th.

The First Sunday of Lent will be February 18th.

To supplement our devotional activities we will have the Black Books featuring 10 minutes of daily readings during Lent available in the coming weeks.

The Beginning of Lent also kicks off the Annual Diocesan Appeal. With a goal of \$4,169,230, the 2024 Appeal will provide critical funding to many diverse and impactful ministries that affect the lives of thousands of people in our Diocese.

In early February, many of you will receive a letter from Bishop Knestout asking for your support of the 2024 Appeal.

It is our sincere hope that you will answer our Bishops request and make a generous commitment to this effort.

From the parish prospective the Appeal is a two week in-pew process that will take place the first two weeks of Lent.



Church of the Visitation is a Mission Church in the Diocese, so 50% of all monies collected will be returned to our parish.

Please prayerfully consider making a contribution during the appeal process.

Thank You

Take Home Lesson

January 28, 2024

Sharing Good News

In today's reading from Mark's Gospel, the disciples witness Jesus' power and authority, providing a basis for them to follow Jesus. Scripture scholar Maria Barga further comments that in fact, Jesus' authority is such that it surpasses that of the scribes, the experts on the Law. "The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes." (Mark 1:22) We are reminded of the promised prophet-like-Moses from the first reading, who conveys God's word with authority.

With the power of his word alone, Jesus casts out the demon: "Quiet! Come out of him!" (Mark 1:25) Jesus thus reveals himself as the prophet-like-Moses whose authority to teach and exercise has a divine source. In Jesus, God continues to communicate himself to his people by giving us the Word of God incarnate.

Today's Gospel invites us to recognize Jesus' power and authority. Because Jesus is the fullness of God's message to us, we need to be attuned to how Jesus communicates himself to us on continual basis: through Scripture, by the actions and words of those around us, and most especially in the Eucharist.

In the closing pages of his short book, This Is My Body, Bishop Barron points out that Jesus is not simple a holy man whose words describe God; he is himself the divine word that effects what it says. Several more examples from Sacred Scripture are given of the power Jesus' word: the wind ceases, the sea is calmed, Lazarus and the little girl are revived from death. The words of Jesus have the power to create, to effect reality at the deepest possible level. This is how we understand the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Since what he says is, the words "This is my body" and "This is my blood" effectively change the bread and wine into his Body and Blood. Like all diving utterances, they produce what they say. The same Word that spoke the elements of bread and wine into existence in the first place now speaks them into a new mode of being, changing them into the bearers of Christ's sacramental presence. The Real Presence of Christ on the Eucharist is consequence of the power of the word.

Reflecting on the many accounts of Jesus' power and authority handed down to us through Sacred Scripture, here are two questions to ponder:

What is the most important thing you would like others to know about Jesus?
How will you tell them or show them?

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 18, 2024 Mass for Elaine Graham

COV GALS ARE MEETING WEEKLY

We have started a group of women who share thoughts and ideas. We read and discuss the Sunday Mass readings and have a book discussion. Right now, we are reading The Universal Christ by Richard Rohr.



We welcome anyone to join us and to add ideas about what women want and need to help and support each other.

We meet every week on Thursdays after the daily Mass in the teen room near the kitchen about 9:45. Since there is adoration on the first Thursday of the month, we meet that week on Friday morning at 9:00 am.

If you are interested in joining, please see any one of the following:

- Pat DeGroot Mary Ellen Sherwood Lynn Dreelin
- Terry Skovera Louise Petralia Eileen O'Brien

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Thank you to the women who responded to the call for help for the Prayer Shawl Ministry. The initial meeting was emotional for all, running from tears as we met each other and spoke of our reasons for joining, to excitement as we worked with the yarn and needles used to create these special gifts.



The ministry will meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays each month at 1:00 pm at the Church. All are welcome to join, or donate money for yarn. Sandi Delagrang will be coordinating this group. You can reach out to her if you have questions or are interested in joining.

HOW ARE YOU TODAY?

A parishioner has inquired about the possibility of having a system for those who would like to have a daily phone call to check on them.

If you would like to receive a daily call from a parishioner and then call another parishioner to check on them, please call or email the Church office by February 15.



Please pray for the following:

Tom Foley, Art Smith, Carmen Brinkley & Joe Nolte



PARISHIONERS

Peggy Williams, Paula Wilson, John & Carol McCormack, Lynne McMurtrie, Barbara Smith, The Hollingsworth family, Don Tyrrell, David Rector, Lorraine Kirsch, Tom Shoemaker, 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

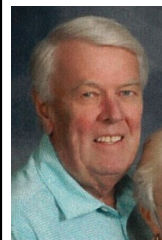
Scott Delagrang, Lynn Messina, Shirley Schultz, Gene Sullivan, Dr. Nicole Touchet, Gloria Powell, Chloe Pearson, Barbara Daly, Mia Angelis, the Angelis family, Debbie Stockhorst, Susie Reber, Joanne Ferari, Jill Shores, John Gahagan, Todd Bowmam, Diane Petralia, Anthony Pace, Mildred Bair, Mary Levine, 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, Dominick Perry.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Karen Tatum, Lucille Redmond, Harry Flannery, David Gunn, Sharon Horrobin, Ralph Burroughs Kate Taylor, 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 & Mary 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.

REGRETS



With regrets, we announce the death of parishioner Tom Foley of Locust Hill on Friday, January 19. Tom and wife Bea joined the parish in 2008 and were regular churchgoers until his health prevented him from doing so. Tom will be buried in PA

A HEARTY WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARISHIONERS



Paul & Debbie Hamay
72 Ashley Ct.
PO Box 12
Wake, VA 23176
Paul: 804-824-4452
Paulinwake@yahoo.com
Debbie: 804-761-8801
debkl8@aol.com



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"

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& Cremation Services

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bhogge@faulknerfuneralhcs.com

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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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WE WISH OUR YOUTH
CLEAR SAILING
DEBBY AND ED HARRIMAN



In Loving Memory of
Jack Petralia

Michael W. Garrett Theresa R. Pace
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"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
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

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

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