

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



The Epiphany of the Lord
January 7, 2024 Year B

Mass intention today is for Elaine Graham

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: We Three Kings #107

"Loving and Forgiving" #662

Penitential Act: page 4

Lord Have Mercy #914

Glory To God #915

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

Gospel Acclamation: We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Homily: Father Koo

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: What Star is This #108

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: What Child is This #97

Meditation: In the Bleak Midwinter

Recessional: God Rest You Merry Gentleman #93



January Birthdays

1st-Carol McCormack, 2nd-Evelyn Scott, 3rd-Robert Cerullo,
5th-Lorraine Kirsch & Mike Borzelleca, 7th-Betty Johnson & Tom
Foley, 13th Daniel Peterson, 16th-Christine Hayes, 17th-Anne Wolski,
19th-James Moncure, 20th-Deborah Harriman, 21st-Charles Walsh,
22nd-Clara Suyes, Donna Brandl, Josiah Reffo, & Don Tyrell,
27th-John McCormack, 28th-Jacob Lovejoy, 29th-Michael Dreelin & Robert Seay,
30th-Liberty Bushey, 31st-John King.

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



January Anniversaries

5th-Charles and Louise Hartz, 6th-Thomas and Ivory Kennedy,
24th-John and Laurie King.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today-Epiphany of the Lord
January 8th-Visitation Singers
January 11th-Parish Council Meeting @3pm
January 14th-2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 21st-3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 28th-4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 2nd-Groundhog Day
February 4th-5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 11th-6th Sunday on Ordinary Time
February 14th-Ash Wednesday/Valentines Day

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

January 7, 2024

Sacristy Duty: S. Delagrange

Community Leader: J. Clair

Altar Server: R. Kostaskey

Lectors: M. Ballato/J. Sychterz

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: P. DeGroot

Chalice: Marcil/Donovan/Sychterz/Harriman

Music: C. Powers

Counters: O'Brien/Smith

January 14, 2024

Sacristy Duty: S. Delagrange

Community Leader: B. Puttmann

Altar Server: B. Smith

Lectors: L. Dreelin/J. Weidner

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: A. Wolski

Chalice: D. Marcil/G. Richardson

Music: M. Meanley

Counters: Tutak/Harvey

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from December 31, 2023

Collection:	\$ 2,172
Second Collection: Israel & Gaza	\$ 382
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 66,852
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 62,590



Loan Balance: \$142,187

Our second collection today is for our needy care program, Parish Pence.

We signed the following principal checks this week:
\$488 Credit card changes in December.

LEGACY

Did you know that the laws of the state where you are living at the time of your death will determine how your estate is settled if you have no will of your own?

These laws might not lease your property to the people you want to receive it. And, these laws definitely don't leave any gift to your church or any other charity. Would you not rather make these decisions yourself?

When you need a will, it's too late to have one drawn. Don't wait, and Don't forget you church.



Potential
Promise & Purpose

RECURRING EVENTS



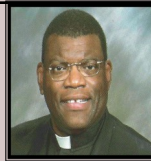
Weekly-Sunday 8:30am-New Worship Area Rosary (Cindy Jessee)
Weekly-Thursday 9:30am-Women's Group (Louise Petralia)
1st-Thursday of the month-Adoration 9:30am-10:30am (Cindy Jessee)
2nd-Monday of the month-Visitation Singers 9:30am (Carol McCormack)
3rd-Wednesday of the month-K of C meeting starts 5:15pm (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 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

Christmas Pageant 2023



Take Home Lesson

January 7, 2024

REJOICING IN THE GLORY OF CHRIST

Scripture scholar Maria Enid Barga's comments in our Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word that the Magi are the first Gentiles to worship Christ, prefiguring the Gentiles referred to in today's second reading and fulfilling the prophecy in today's first reading.

In the first verses from Isaiah, the imagery of light brings hope of God's coming to his people. This light is not a natural light but a supernatural light; it is the glory of God made manifest in the world. Jerusalem shines forth like a beacon to foreign nations, drawing them to recognize the universal kingship of God. The reading from Isaiah ends with caravans bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the Lord. We hear of the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy in today's gospel, as people from foreign nations come bearing gold, frankincense, and myrrh (all luxury goods) to pay homage to the newborn king of the Jews.

In the short reading from his letter to the Ephesians, Saint Paul explains how faith in Christ transforms Gentile into believers by describing three distinctive roles they take on in their faith. Paul first calls them "coheirs." As baptized Christians, they too are adopted children of God who now have the right of inheritance of God's grace and salvation. Next, since the Gentiles are "members of the same body" of Christ, they cannot be treated as second-class citizens. Lastly, as "copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel," the Gentiles share in the ministry to proclaim the Good News. This equal participation of the Gentiles emphasizes the fact that everyone is a new creation in Jesus Christ.

We have this summary of today's readings from Magnificat magazine: The Magi - by tradition called Balthasar, Melchior, and Caspar - reveal that our life's greatest purpose is to worship the Savior. The gifts brought by the Magi reveal how we can do that: "To offer gold is to proclaim Christ's Kingship, to offer incense is to adore his Godhead, and to offer myrrh is to acknowledge his mortality" (Saint Odilo of Cluny). And when we meditate on the mystery of the Epiphany, "we shall be radiant at what we see," and "Our hearts throb and overflow," for the appearance of the Son of God means that lives of the lowly, poor and afflicted shall be saved. We have become "copartners in the promise in Jesus Christ through the Gospel."

Epiphany is a season especially set apart for adoring the glory of Christ. Come, let us bow down in worship!

As we consider the mystery of the Epiphany and the supernatural light that is the glory of God made manifest in the world, this week we ask:

What gifts do you have to offer as homage to your King, Jesus Christ?

PRAYER SHAWLS NEEDED

The painting below of our church was done by a recipient of one of our prayer shawls and sent to us, along with a message expressing her thanks. The shawl ministry is looking for new participants who can knit or crochet or WOULD LIKE TO LEARN, to make Shawls for comfort for parishioners (and families and friends). There will be an organizational meeting on Monday, January 8th at 1:00 pm at the church. Please join us. If you have any questions, contact Lynne Richardson at 571-239-0980 or lynnegary@gmail.com

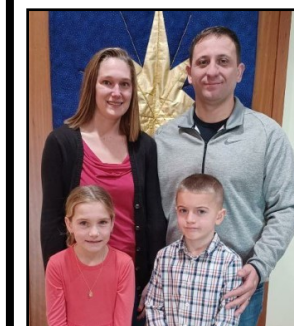


PRAYER LIST REFRESH

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*



A HEARTY WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARISHIONERS



Mark & Nicole Fatigato
Hayley & Jax
139 Forest Drive
Hartfield Va 23071

Mark.fatigato15@gmail.com
703-881-1189

Nicole.germain16@yahoo.com
804-832-3846



**ENVELOPES, CALENDARS, AND
TAX STATEMENTS**

Our 2023 envelopes are available for pickup on the admin table in the Narthex. Some e-givers have wondered why we printed envelopes for them. It was done to provide, by request, envelopes for the scheduled second collections. Also if you desire a tax statement for this year, please place your name on the writing tablet located in the same area, and take a free calendar.

NEW YEAR UPDATES

Please remember to keep the office informed of address, family, email, and phone number changes.

If any of these items has changed in the last few months, please inform us, and if you are doubtful about telling us about a change that occurred last year, give us a call to verify if we have the right information.

Or if you are not seeing your name in the *Birthday/Anniversary* list and would like to, that would be an update as well.

EPIPHANY

While the hustle and bustle of Christmas ends for many people on Dec. 26, throughout Christian history Christmas lasts for twelve days – all the way until Jan. 6. This feast marking the end of Christmas is called “Epiphany.”

In the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church, Epiphany celebrates the revelation that Jesus was the Son of God. It focuses primarily on this revelation to the Three Wise Men, but also in his baptism in the Jordan and at the wedding at Cana.

In the Eastern rites of the Catholic Church, Theophany – as Epiphany is known in the East – commemorates the manifestation of Jesus' divinity at his Baptism in the River Jordan.

While the traditional date for the feast is Jan. 6, in the United States the celebration of Epiphany is moved to the Sunday between Jan. 2 and Jan. 8.

While the Western celebration of Epiphany (which comes from Greek, meaning “revelation from above”), and the Eastern celebration of Theophany (meaning “revelation of God”), have developed their own traditions and liturgical significances, these feasts share more than the same day.

In the early Church, Christians, particularly those in the East, celebrated the advent of Christ on Jan. 6 by commemorating Nativity, Visitation of the Magi, Baptism of Christ and the Wedding of Cana all in one feast of the Epiphany. By the fourth century, both Christmas and Epiphany had been set as separate feasts in some dioceses. At the Council of Tours in 567, the Church set both Christmas day and Epiphany as feast days on the December 25 and Jan. 6, respectively, and named the twelve days between the feasts as the Christmas season.

Over time, the western Church separated the remaining feasts into their own celebrations, leaving the celebration of the Epiphany to commemorate primarily the Visitation of the Magi to see the newborn Christ on January 6th.



EMAIL ADDRESS REMINDERS

Our church email address is:
office@covtopping.org
 Our administrator (Ray's) email address is:
admin@covtopping.org



Please pray for the following:

*Christine Graham, JoAnn Shoemaker,
 Joseph Gascoigne, John Regan, and Carol McPherson*



PARISHIONERS

Carmen Brinkley, 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

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

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

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 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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 14, 2024 Mass for Joseph Gascoigne
 Sunday, February 18, 2024 Mass for Elaine Graham

CHRISTMAS CLEAN UP

We will be taking down and storing the Christmas decorations after Mass today. If you have time, please stay and help. Many hands make light work!

Thank you *Cindy Jessee*

NEXT SUNDAY IS SOCIAL SUNDAY

Social Sunday will be held immediately following Mass on January 14th. If you can, please make a dish to share.

Please take this opportunity to verify your contact information for the directory with Pat Marchant, Helen Linden or Lynne Richardson.



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.



In memory of
Lillian M. Reiffel,
 Teacher



PRAYERS
 MEMORIES
 LOVE
 Jerry
 McMurtrie

*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"

**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

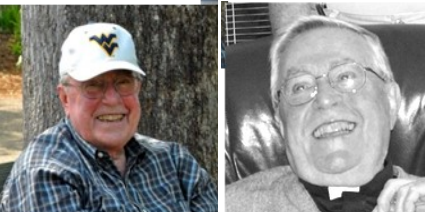
SHORE SHINE LLC
"GET YOUR SHINE ON!"
804-832-6080 Licensed & Insured

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

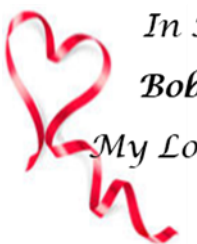

In Memory of
Thomas R. Shepherd, Jr. 8/28/1943 to 3/18/2020
Thomas R. Shepherd III 11/05/1970 to 3/31/2022



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

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 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