

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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E-Mail: office@COVTopping.org
Website: www.church-of-the-visitation.org



5th Sunday of Easter
April 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: Noelle Harvey
Justice & Peace: open
Religious Education: Zaida Wohleking
Parish Life: Johnna Harris
RCIA/Adult Formation: John Weidner
Pastoral Care: Lynne Richardson
Administration: Ray Kstesky

FINANCE COUNCIL

John Charbeneau
Anne Wolski
Debby Harriman
Ray Kstesky-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: Sing O Sing #563

"Loving and Forgiving" #662

Penitential Act: page 4

Lord Have Mercy #914

Glory To God #915

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

Responsorial Psalm: I will praise you, Lord, in the
assembly of your people.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:18-24

Gospel Acclamation: I am the good shepherd, says

Gospel: John 15:1-8

Homily: Father Koo

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: I Am The Bread Of Life #342

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: Vine and Branches #354

Meditation: In Every Age #474

Recessional: All The Ends Of The Earth #562

May Birthdays



1st-Pat DeGroot, 2nd-Cynthia Taylor, 3rd-Scott Kauffman,
5th-Lynn Vajda, 6th-Camdyn Putney, 8th-Donna Lange,
9th-Denise Miller, 10th-Terry Skovera, 13th-James Harvey,
14th-Nicholas Wohleking, 15th-Nikki Ambrose, 18th-Don Delagrance
& Grace Puleo, 24th-Jennifer Miller, 27th-Lynne Richardson,
28th-Tim Wohleking, 29th-Charlie Hock.

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



May Anniversaries

11th-Bob and Maura Puleo

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today-5th Sunday of Easter; KOC Pancake Breakfast

May 2nd-Adoration

May 2nd-Parish Council Meeting 3pm

May 5th-6th Sunday of Easter

May 12th-The Ascension of the Lord/Social Sunday

May 13th-Visitation Singers

May 19th-Penecost Sunday/First Communion

May 26th-The Most Holy Trinity/KOC Pancake Breakfast

May 27th-Memorial Day

June 2nd-The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

June 6th-Adoration

APRIL 28, 2024

Sacristy Duty: Jessee

Community Leader: McCormack

Altar Server: Miller/Kirsch

Lectors: Dubicki/Dreelin

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Wolski

Chalice: Shoemaker/Donovan/Seay/Harriman

Music: Powers

Counters: Harris/Hollingsworth

May 5, 2024

Sacristy Duty: Delagrance

Community Leader: Harriman

Altar Server: Kstesky

Lectors: Shoemaker/O'Brien

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: DeGroot

Chalice: Dreelin/Harvey/TBA

Music: Meanley

Counters: O'Brien/Smith

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from April 21, 2024

Collection:	\$ 2,243
Second Collection: Catholic Virginian	\$ 185
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 106,177
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 101,340
Loan Balance:	\$ 130,650



There is no second collection today.

We signed the following principal checks this week:

\$748 April Electricity.

LEGACY

Life insurance is a way to make a larger gift to your church than you might otherwise be able to afford. Consider naming your church as a beneficiary of any life insurance policy.

If the needs of other beneficiaries will be met in other ways, why not make your church the owner and beneficiary of one of your life insurance policies? If you do this, you may receive a significant income tax deduction and future premiums you pay may also qualify for an income tax deduction.

Consider naming the church as a secondary or back-up beneficiary of a life insurance policy or even your retirement plans in case other beneficiaries named are deceased at the time of your death.



Potential
Promise & Purpose

RECURRING EVENTS

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

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-Monday each month at 1:00 pm Shawl Ministry
(Sandi Delagrance)

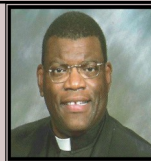
1st-Friday each month at 9:00; other weeks on Thursdays at 9:45-
COV Gals. (Louise Petralia/Eileen O'Brien)

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
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

Take Home Lesson

Fruitful Love

Sunday, April 28, 2024

This week's reflection is adapted, in part, from scripture scholar Stephen Lampe's commentary from our Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word.

Last week we heard Jesus identify himself as the Good Shepherd. That says much about who he is. This week we hear Jesus identify himself differently: I AM the vine. This statement tells us much about him, but it also tells us about ourselves and the fruitfulness expected from us.

Five chapters of John's Gospel are dedicated to Jesus' final comments to his disciples at the Last Supper (John 13-17), and they include two of the seven I AM sayings (John 14:6; 15:1). These powerful sayings reveal to us more of who Jesus is and identify him with the Father by affirming his divinity and oneness. Running throughout today's Gospel reading is the verb "to remain" (menein in Greek), which will be a key to understanding discipleship and fruitfulness.

The Gospel presents three related images: Jesus as the vine, the believers as the branches, and the Father as the vine grower. Each party has a role to play. Jesus, the vine, is the source for life and fruitfulness. The Father, the vine grower, cares for the well-being and fruitfulness of the vine through the process of pruning. Finally, the believers, the branches, are to remain with Jesus, the vine.

The instruction to remain consists of much more than passive existence. The believer is to dwell in a process of pruning by the word that promotes growth and removes whatever is unfruitful. In the end, believers bear much fruit as the branches of the vine. This image invites the believer into a relationship with the Father and Son that is expressed in self-going love. Since the fruit of the branches is love, we can see how this Gospel joins the other readings for today in emphasizing our vocation to bear fruitful love.

At the conclusion of today's second reading, we are instructed first to believe in Jesus and then to imitate him: to love one another as Jesus loved us. "Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us."

Every branch that does not bear fruit is taken away by the vine grower. Every branch that bears fruit will be pruned so that it bears more fruit. Knowing that pruning is good for plants, and for us, this week we ask:

When have you been "pruned" by your experiences in a way that led to a greater abundance of love for others?

WHY IS MAY THE MONTH OF MARY?

The month of May is dedicated to The Blessed Virgin Mary. The first 23 days fall within the liturgical season of Easter, which is represented by the liturgical color white — the color of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence (absolute or restored). The remainder of the month (beginning the Monday after Pentecost) is in Ordinary Time which is represented by the liturgical color green. This symbol of hope is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection.

The month of May (Overview - Calendar) is the "month which the piety of the faithful has especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady," and it is the occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world [pay] to the Queen of Heaven. During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of God's mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance" (Paul VI: Encyclical on the Month of May, no. 1).

This Christian custom of dedicating the month of May to the Blessed Virgin arose at the end of the 13th century. In this way, the Church was able to Christianize the secular feasts which were wont to take place at that time. In the 16th century, books appeared and fostered this devotion.

For May, give Mary a special spot in your prayer corner. It can be a statue or picture, but place there some representation of our Blessed Mother. Make it appealing and a real tribute to her beauty and virtue.

Then, crown Mary. You can give her an actual or spiritual crown and you can make it a subtle gesture or ornate ceremony of your own device. The meaning is far more important than the action. You can do it in the beginning, at the end of May or anywhere in between. Just do it.

Why? Not because it's a long-standing tradition in the Church, although it is. Not because there are any special graces connected to it, although there is.

No, do it because Mary is Mother – your mother, my mother, everyone's mother – and because she cares for all of us day-in-and-day-out without fail, interceding for us in even the tiniest matters. For that, she deserves an entire month in her honor.



APPEAL UPDATE

We did it again-achieved our goal for the Bishop's Appeal. To date, \$13,725 has been received and pledged by our community. The amounts to 169% of goal. 54 families contributed to that amount, and we sincerely thank you. Remembering that as a Mission Church, 50% of monies collected flows back to us for our many projects, we continue to ask those who have not been part of this endeavor to consider joining with the generous "54." Any gift, small or not, will be graciously accepted.

Father Koo

A SPECIAL NOTE

Our family would like to thank you, our faith community, for celebrating the life of Donald Crotteau, father of Donna Brandl. He passed recently at the age of 99 having lived a long and remarkable life.

We especially thank our celebrant, Father Gerry Kaggwa, those who helped at Mass, and the Choir. We also thank Andrea Moore for her help and Johnna Harris and her staff for the reception following Mass.

Words cannot adequately express our gratitude and appreciation.

Donna and Bill Brandl



KNEELING

For Roman Catholics, kneeling is one of the most distinctive physical gestures of prayer during the celebration of Mass. In fact, for many centuries the lay faithful of the Roman Rite would kneel for almost the entire duration of Mass.

Catholics kneel because Jesus kneeled during prayer.

For these reasons the Roman rite instructs the faithful to kneel during Mass specifically when Jesus is made present on the altar. According to the General Instruction of the Roman Missal. "In the Dioceses of the United States of America, (the faithful) should kneel beginning after the singing or recitation of the Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) until after the Amen of the Eucharistic Prayer."

This physical posture is meant to express a spiritual attitude of adoration before the triune God, truly and substantially present in the Holy Eucharist. It is an act of humility, recognizing our own littleness before the Creator of the world. The act of kneeling prepares our hearts to receive God within our souls, striking down our pride with a physical reminder of what our soul should be like spiritually.

While not officially part of the Rite, it is a common custom in some churches to maintain a kneeling posture until the consecrated hosts are placed back within the tabernacle.



ADORATION



Eucharistic Adoration will take place the first Thursday of every month from 9:30am-10:am. You can come in any time during this hour and pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Father Koo will give the Benediction at 10:30am. Please consider adding this practice to your prayer life.

FREEWILL SERVICE

In partnership with the Catholic Community Foundation, Freewill is again offering free estate planning and will preparation. This spring is an ideal time to protect what God has entrusted to your care and construct a plan aligned with your Faith and Values. If you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity, please visit:

FreeWill.com/RichmondCatholicFoundation



Please pray for the following:

Julie Caldwell, Betty Hodge, & Donald Crotteau

PARISHIONERS

Walt & Kari Lee Donovan, 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 King, Donna Thompson, Brendan O'Brien, Becky Nunn, Lois & Skip Krumb, Marianne Krop, Michele Meanley, Louise Petralia, Natalie Smith, Pat Paul, Margaret Hock, Steve Kirsch, Marilynne Cerullo, Tom Hawksworth, Nancy Wirth, Linda Gray, Pat Reamy, Andrea Moore, Lynn Vajda.

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Bill Sassok, John Wohleking, Christopher Seay, Brian Patrick Dubicki, Scott Delagrange, Lynn Messina, Shirley Schultz, Gene Sullivan, Dr. Nicole Touchet, Grace Anderson, Gloria Powell, Chloe Pearson, Barbara Daly, Mia Angelis, the Angelis family, Debbie Stockhorst, Susie Reber, Becky Pattarozzi, 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, Dominick Perry.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Lewis Hurley, Michele Brown, Debbie Scott, Janis Kott, Angel Carlson, Risa Estes, Deloris Cooper, Karen Tatum, Lucille Redmond, Harry Flannery, 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, Pattie Sobieski, Cliff Dean, Christopher Hutton, Olga Hall, Elizabeth Panzer, Tom Sennott, Jim & Inga Peddicord, David Gunn, 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.



KOC PANCAKE BREAKFAST NEXT WEEK

The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Pancake Breakfast on today after Mass. The menu will be pancakes, sausage, juice & coffee.



Please stay after and enjoy breakfast and camaraderie with fellow parishioners.

Donations accepted.

FEAST OF THE VISITATION

The Feast of the Visitation is May 31st, and Noelle Harvey is inviting interested people to join the committee to plan a celebration for this event. Please contact the office, Noelle, or Eileen O'Brien if you can help.



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

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**



PRAYERS
MEMORIES
LOVE
Jerry
McMurtrie

**"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

Do not fear, for I am with you,
Do not be afraid, for I am you God
Isaiah 41:10

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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SAT: 10AM-6PM
SUN: CLOSED

In Memory of
Bob Hartman
My Love of My Life
Jenny

In loving memory of
Marty Hawksworth
Tom & Sharon

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



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

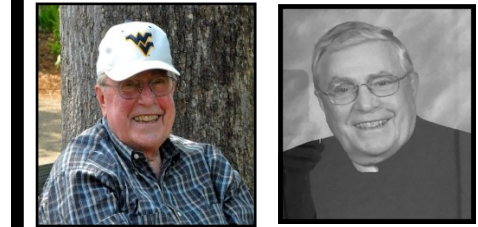
"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."
-Benjamin Franklin
Tom & Cindy Jessee

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 loving memory of our Father Bob Nash

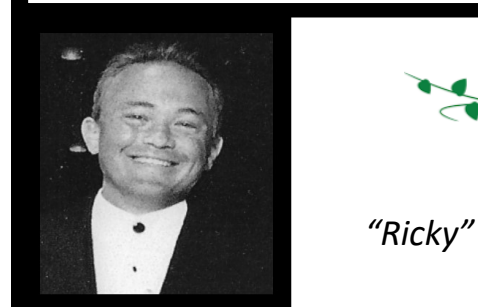
In Loving Memory of
"Lee Hollingsworth"
We love and miss you!
Barb & Tori

BY THE BAY
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Al Langer 804-815-1328

Helping Our Youth
Build Their Future
Limerick II
Limerick II Enterprises
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Tom Shoemaker
In Memory of JoAn


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


Lewis Forte



In Loving Memory
"Ricky" David Richard Suyes III & Marie M. Suyes



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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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