

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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Topping, Virginia 23169
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Fax: (804)758-0676

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



Ascension of the Lord
May 12, 2024 Year B
Mothers Day

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: O Bless The Lord My Soul #561

"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 1:1-11

Responsorial Psalm: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-13

Gospel Acclamation: Go and teach all nations, says the Lord; I am
with you always, until the end of the world.

Gospel: Mark 16:15-20

Homily: Father Koo

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: We Walk By Faith #515

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: We Are Many Parts #585

Meditation: On This Day O Beautiful Mother #703

Recessional: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus #732

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-The Ascension of the Lord/"Social Sunday"/Mother's Day
May 13th-Visitation Singers "All are Welcome"
May 19th-Penecost Sunday/"First Communion" Celebration
May 26th-The Most Holy Trinity/"KOC Pancake Breakfast"
May 27th-Memorial Day
May 31st- Retreat/Light Lunch/Mass "Feast of the Visitation"
June 2nd-The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ /"Church picnic"
June 6th-Adoration
June 7th-The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass
June 9th-10th Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 10th-Visitation Singers

May 12, 2024

Sacristy Duty: Linden

Community Leader: Richardson

Altar Server: Kstesky

Lectors: Sychterz/DeGroot

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Harriman

Chalice: Seay/Dreelin/TBA

Music: McCormack

Counters: King/Kirsch/Angell

May 19, 2024

Sacristy Duty: Delagrance

Community Leader: Clair

Altar Server: Smith

Lectors: Weidner/Kstesky

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Wolski

Chalice: Donovan/Seay/G. Richardson/TBA

Music: Meanley

Counters: Tutak/Harvey

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from May 5, 2024

Collection:	\$ 2,330
Second Collection: Debt Reduction	\$ 872
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 110,748
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 106,995
Loan Balance:	\$ 129,735



There is no second collection today.

We signed the following principal check this week:

\$1,098 Pastor and Rectory Expenses for April.

LEGACY

As Catholics we rejoice with faith in the resurrection. Yet we also know the passage from life to death can be stressful on those who survive us.



You can ease some of that stress by acting now to put your estate plan in order. Who will be executor of your estate? Who will decide how your personal treasures are distributed? In addition to their own grief, can you imagine your loved ones struggling to find life insurance papers, bank accounts and other vital documents?

RECURRING EVENTS

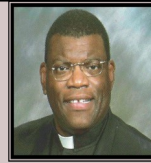
Weekly-Sunday 8:30am-New Worship Area Rosary (Cindy Jessee)
1st-Thursday of the month-Adoration 9:30am-10:30am (Cindy Jessee)
2nd-Monday of the month-Visitation Singers 9:30am (Carol McCormack)
3rd-Wednesday of the month-K of C meeting starts 5:15pm (Al Langer)
2nd & 4th-Monday each month at 1:00 pm 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

THE ASCESION OF THE LORD

The Ascension is the event, where Jesus arose into heaven, at the end of his time on earth. Jesus' time on earth began with his birth. It was interrupted for three days by His death on the Cross. During that time, He descended into the realm of the dead and preached the Gospel to the good people who died before Him. This allowed those good and holy souls--the righteous dead, as we call them--who accepted Christ as their Savior to proceed to heaven. On the third day after his death and burial, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, an event we call the Resurrection. He spent the next 40 days preaching and preparing His disciples to perform the work of preaching and baptizing all people.

(Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11) It is said that by His death and Resurrection, Jesus opened the gates of heaven for all humanity. This is true, and His Ascension demonstrates this to us. It is His proof that those of us who believe in Him in faith and follow Him will also be raised on the last day, and enter into heaven.

From heaven, Jesus hears our prayers and intercedes for us with His Father.

We celebrate this on Ascension Sunday, which is celebrated forty days after Easter. Traditionally it is celebrated on a Thursday as a Holy Day of Obligation. The Church presently observes it on a Sunday to allow more of the faithful to attend Mass. It remains a Holy Day of Obligation, and the faithful are reminded that all Sundays are obligatory by default.

The Ascension should not be confused with Pentecost, which is celebrated 50 days after Easter. Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Christ, after His Ascension.

MAY'S BUSY SPIRITUAL AND SOCIAL SCHEDULE

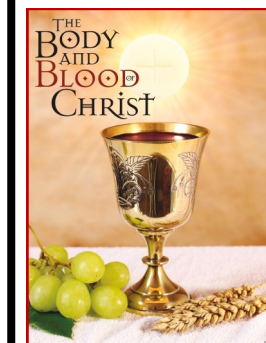
May promises to be an extremely busy spiritual and social time for the parish. On Mother's Day, we will celebrate the Feast of the Ascension and Social Sunday. The next Sunday is Pentecost and the First Communion Celebration for five lovely recipients. On May 26th is the Most Holy Trinity and Pancake Breakfast time.

Finally, to close out the month, will be Corpus Christi weekend commencing with the Feast of the Visitation on May 31st. (See accompanying article).

Our Liturgy Committee and other ministries have planned the spiritual events, and our Parish Life Ministry will continue to need parishioners to deliver their culinary specialties to our Social Events to share with others.

**FEAST OF THE VISITATION AND
CORPUS CHRISTI WEEKEND**

The Feast of the Visitation falls this year on Friday, May 31st and Corpus Christi Sunday follows two days later on June 2nd. We are planning to begin our weekend of celebration with a daytime retreat on Friday which will include morning prayer and reflection, Mass at noon, followed by lunch and time for reflection and sharing after lunch. Please contact the office or John Weidner if you are planning to attend the retreat or would like additional information.



Our weekend of celebration will continue on Sunday, June 2, The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi). We are planning a short Eucharistic procession at the end of Mass and then all are encouraged to remain for a Spring picnic hosted by our Parish Life ministry.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

The Christian feast of Pentecost, which is celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter, (50 days after Easter Sunday) commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks, as describe in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:1-31). In Christian Tradition, this event represents the birth of the early church.

As one the most important solemnities on the Church's calendars, it has a rich depth of meaning, but here is how Pope Benedict summarized it in 2012:

This Solemnity makes us remember and relive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and the other disciples gathered in prayer with the Virgin Mary in the Upper Room (cf. Acts 2:1-11). Jesus, risen and ascended into Heaven, sent his Spirit to the Church so that every Christian might participate in his own divine life and become his valid witness in the world. The Holy Spirit, breaking into history, defeats aridity, opens hearts to hope, stimulates and fosters in us an interior maturity in our relationship with God and with our neighbor.



Take Home Lesson

Go Out Into The World

May 12, 2024

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

As the Easter season winds down, the Gospel tradition faces a logistics problem: how to move from the appearances of the resurrected Lord to a Spirit-charged community engaged in mission. In order for a transformation to take place, two events must occur: Jesus' appearances must cease, and the community must be animated by the Spirit. The four Gospels deal with these two events in different ways. Regarding Jesus' departure, there are striking variations. In Matthew, Jesus commissions his disciples on mountain in Galilee, and promises to stay with them (Matthew 28:16-20). Mark's original Gospel text has no account, although Jesus' ascension is found in Mark's "Longer Ending" (Mark 16:1-20). John's Gospel records a final encounter in Galilee, but it refers to Jesus' return, not his departure (John 21:1-5). Finally, Luke concludes his Gospel (Luke 24:50-53) and begins the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 1:6-12) with two slightly different descriptions of Jesus' ascension from the outskirts of Jerusalem. Regarding the Spirit, Jesus imparts the Spirit at the Last Supper in John; Matthew and Mark imply Jesus' "Spirit" remains active among the eleven; and Luke provides the dramatic Pentecost descent of the Spirit in Acts of the Apostles. It is the first event, Jesus' definitive departure and its consequences, that we celebrate today.

Today's first reading includes Luke's second account, from Acts of the Apostles, of Jesus' ascension. Responding to the apostles' question about the restoration of the "kingdom of Israel," Jesus gradually moves from knowledge to mission. Knowledge, we read, is not given to them, and belongs only to the Father. Instead, they are empowered by the Spirit to give witness to Jesus in Jerusalem and beyond, "to the ends of the earth".

As Jesus departs from the disciples' sight, two men dressed in white appear. This recalls for us other appearances of heavenly beings, at the empty tomb and at the transfiguration (Luke 9:28-36). These men now question the disciples: "Why are you standing there looking at the sky?" Here, we can draw parallels between Jesus' ascension and his transfiguration. The two men in white at the transfiguration were Moses and Elijah, who, according to tradition, were taken up into heaven to make way for their successors (Joshua and Elisha, respectively). Similarly, now that Jesus has ascended, his successors (the disciples) can be empowered through the Spirit for their mission to go out into the world to be Jesus' witnesses.

Our mission is a continuation of Christ's mission, which he left us to take up after his ascension. We all must be ready to articulate what Jesus has done for us, what he means to us, and why he is the answer to the world's problems.

What one thing can you do this week to continue Christ's mission in your community?

A PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

All-loving God, we give you thanks and praise for mothers young and old.

We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need; May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy.

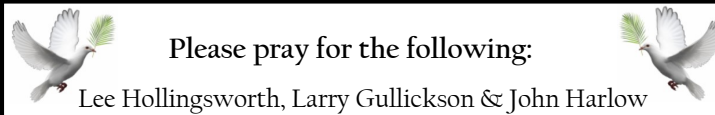
We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us; May they continue to guide us in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty, or conflict; May they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion.

We remember mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.

Amen

 Please pray for the following:
Lee Hollingsworth, Larry Gullickson & John Harlow

PARISHIONERS

Betty Johnson, Helen Linden, Dot Edwards, Walt & Kari Lee Donovan, Peggy Williams, John & Carol McCormack, Lynne McMurtrie, Barbara Smith, Germain Hayes, The Hollingsworth Family, Don Tyrrell, David Rector, Lorraine Kirsch, Tom Shoemaker, Jack King, Donna Thompson, Brendan O'Brien, Becky Nunn, Lois & Skip Kramb, Marianne Krop, Michele Meanley, Louise Petralia, Natalie Smith, Pat Paul, Margaret Hock, Steve Kirsch, Marilynne Cerullo, Nancy Wirth, Tom Hawksworth, Linda Gray, Pat Reamy, Andrea Moore, Lynn Vajda.

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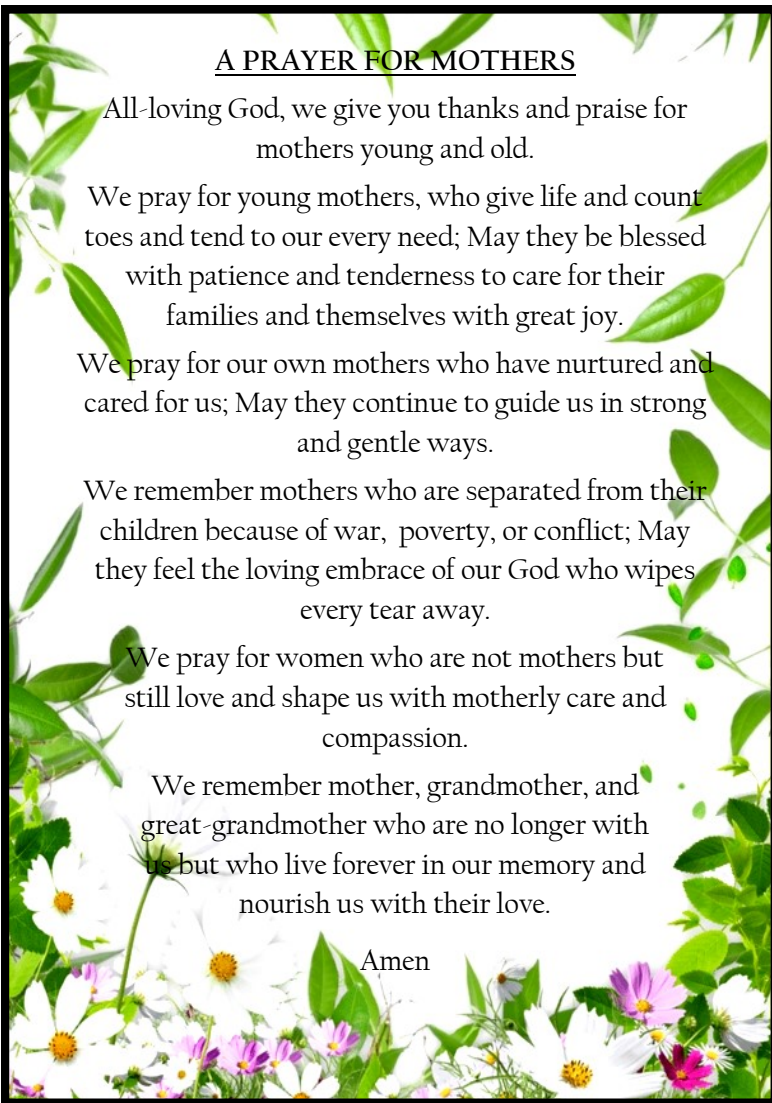
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If you need to add to the prayer list or would like a Mass intention please call the office, email, or leave a note in the box outside the office.

APPEAL UPDATE

We did it again-achieved our goal for the Bishop's Appeal. To date, \$14,175 has been received and pledged by our community. The amounts to 175% of goal. 56 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 "56." Any gift, small or not, will be graciously accepted.



SOCIAL SUNDAY

Today is Social Sunday after Mass, please plan to stay and enjoy the opportunity for camaraderie, story-telling, and good food! Please bring a dish to share if you can.



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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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

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

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
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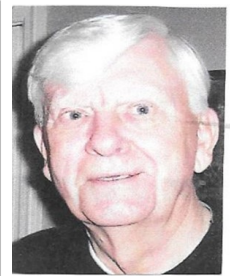

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In Memory of
Bob Hartman
My Love of My Life
Jenny

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

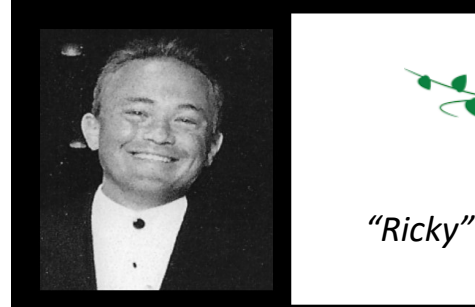

Kenneth Anderson
"Say not in grief 'he is no more' but in thankfulness that he was".



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

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