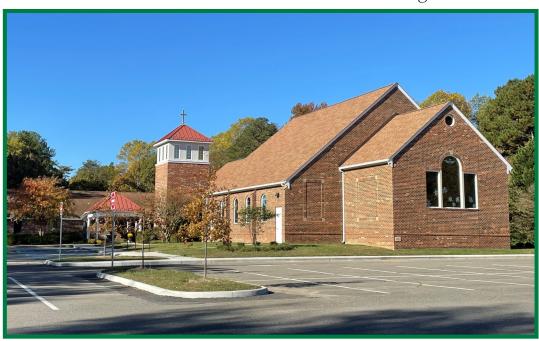
The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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



11th Sunday In Ordinary Time June 16, 2024 Year B



Our Mass Intentions Today is for Jason Mark Los and Douglas Unger



PARISH MINISTRIES

Worship/Liturgy: Noelle Harvey Justice & Peace: open Religious Education: Zaida Wohleking Parish Life: Johnna Harris OCIA/Adult Formation: John Weidner Pastoral Care: Lynne Richardson Administration: Ray Kostesky

FINANCE COUNCIL

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

Church Hours

Sunday Mass 9AM Wednesday Daily Mass 9AM Thursday Daily Mass 9AM

Pastor, Johnny Mintah-Mensah "Koo" 119 Club Drive Hartfield, VA 23071 Phone: 804-286-9271

Please call the office about arranging Baptisms, Marriages, the OCIA Program, Sacraments of Anointing, Reconciliation, Sick Calls, the schedule for Holy Days, and our Rosary Ministry.

PARISH COUNCIL

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

Church Secretary, Andrea Moore Webmaster/IT, Mike Dreelin

MASS/MUSIC

Entrance: Sing To The Mountains #542

"Loving and Forgiving" #662

Penitential Act: page 4

Lord Have Mercy #914 Glory To God #915

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10

Gospel Acclamation: The seed is the word of God, Christ is the Sower. All who come to him will live forever.

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34 Homily: Father Koo

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: Seed, Scattered And Sown #345

Holy: #918

Memorial Acclamation: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.

Lamb of God: #923 Lord's Prayer: page 26

Communion: I, The Lord #680

Meditation: For The Fruits Of This Creation #212

Recessional: Faith Of Our Fathers #506

June Birthdays

1st-Fritz Sitterding, 2nd-Kim Lovejoy & Walter Donovan, 7th-Michelle Puttmann, 10th-Jean Box, 13th-Charles Hartz. 14th-Johnna Harris, 17th-Arlene Warren, 21st-Marla Bury, 24th-Gerri Lohr, 25th-Zaida Wohleking, 26th-Una Kerrigan, 27th-Carl Ambrose, Sharon Hawksworth and Susan Seay, 28th-Baylen Miller.

June Anniversaries



1st-Fritz & Suzanne Sitterding, 13th-Gary & Lynne Richardson, 21st-Dave & Emily Filippi & Scott & Kathy Kauffman, 25th-Ray & Jean Kostesky, 27th-Don & Sandi Delagrange, 28th-Bob & Barbara Smith.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today-11th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Fathers Day

June 23rd-12th Sunday in Ordinary Time/KOC Pancake Breakfast

June 30th-13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 4th-Adoration

July 7th-14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 8th-Visitation Singers

July 11th-Parish Council 3pm

July 14th-15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 21st-16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 16, 2024

Sacristy Duty: Jessee Community Leader: Harriman Lectors: O'Brien/Shoemaker Altar Server: Smith

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Donovan

Chalice: Harvey, Marcil, Seay, Plunkert

Counters: Harvey/Tutak Music: Filippi

June 23, 2024

Sacristy Duty: Delagrange Community Leader: Richardson Altar Server: Miller/Dorman Lectors: Dreelin/Sychterz

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Wolski

Chalice: Harriman/Donovan/TBD/TBD

Music: Lange Counters: Harris/Hollingsworth

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from June 9, 2024

Collection: \$ 2,801

Second Collection:

Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 125,401

Total Budget Projection: \$ 119,592 Loan Balance: \$ 128,822

Today's second collection is for the Holy Father.

We signed the following principal check this week: \$1,683 Diocesan Assessments; \$272 May Electric.

LEGACY

Permanent endowments are gifts that keep on giving. If the endowment agreement states that the principal shall never be invaded and that income is paid out to support a designated cause through your church, then your gift is "forever."



Trusts allow you to make a gift to your church in the future. You may set up the trust now and keep the income for yourself or other beneficiaries as long as you choose, or for life. The church will receive the property after that. There are special tax benefits for these kinds of trusts.

Charitable Remainder Trusts allow you to make a gift to your church while retaining income from the gifted asset during your lifetime (and that of your spouse). If the trust is funded with appreciated property, capital gains taxes may be avoided. There will also be a significant current income tax deduction at the time the trust is created.

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 Delagrange)

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*

 $We bsite for scholarship application: \ www.church-of-the-visitation.org$

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

Living in God's Kingdom

June 16, 2024

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

In order to understand the message of Mark's Gospel, it is important to recall that Mark's original audience was a community of persecuted Christians who needed hope. Read in this light, today's Gospel reading offers encouragement in their work of building up the kingdom of God.

Among Jesus's teachings are parables about the kingdom of God, which often make their point through agricultural images familiar to his audience. Today's Gospel includes two such parables, as well as a note informing us that Jesus often interpreted his parable privately for his disciples. The parables told by Jesus usually have a twist, so they do not simply tell how life is but challenge the hearer to convert to how life can be in God's realm.

The parables of the scattered seed and the mustard seed describe the kingdom of God and contain two powerful insights into the nature of that kingdom. There is a contrast between small beginnings (scattered seed and a tiny mustard seed) and their final form (fully grown grain and a large plant). Equally important in this passage is the fact that what at present appears imperceptible will grow in mysterious ways. The unspoken conclusion is that God is at work.

The note at the end of today's Gospel reading, that Jesus teaches the disciples privately, along with the earlier insight into the slow and mysterious unfolding of the kingdom, offers a powerful message of hope in the face of suffering. To Mark's suffering and persecuted community, Jesus' message offers hope that the seed sown by Christ and through Christian witness is in fact growing and maturing in mysterious and divinely directed ways toward the fullness of God's kingdom. They need only to hear it, accept it, and patiently allow it to bear fruit.

"God's Kingdom," Pope Francis said, "is above all the initiative and gift of the Lord. Our weak effort, seemingly small before the complexity of the problems of the world, when integrated with God's effort, fears no difficulty. The victory of the Lord is certain...This opens us up to trust and hope, despite the tragedies, the injustices, the sufferings that we encounter."

It seems that God wants good things to start small and grow over time. He wants to involve us, through our choices, in what he is doing. So he plants seeds, and he wants us to cultivate them.

What can you do this week to cultivate a seed of faith in your heart or your neighbor's heart?

GIFTS OF THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - RECAPPING OUR PARISH RETREAT

Last Friday, May 31, our parish celebrated our namesake feast day, the Feast of The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with a parish retreat that included a morning of prayer and reflection followed by Mass at noon.

One of our parishioners in attendance commented that while we do indeed live up to the name of our parish by warmly welcoming visitors, the reflections she experienced during the retreat caused her to recognize how Mary's journey to Elizabeth has a much deeper meaning and can challenge us to adopt a mission much like Mary's.

Eileen O'Brien opened the morning by offering thoughts on what both Mary and Elizabeth must have been feeling as their unusual pregnancies progressed. It is in Mary's nature to give, and she gives companionship and assistance to Elizabeth for three months. Eileen also offered that the Visitation art that we see each week attached to our bulletin email tries to capture the joy Elizabeth feels when her unborn son moves for the first time: "For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy." (Luke 1:44)

Pat DeGroot offered some background on the landscape of the Holy Land and shared 2000 year old Roman glass that she had acquired during her many visits to Israel. Pat speculated that as Mary walked the 80 miles to Elizabeth's home, perhaps she reflected upon the Song of Hannah, the mother of Samuel, the prophet who anointed King David. Hannah, like Elizabeth, was thought to be barren, yet her prayers for a child were answered. Hannah's song begins: "My heart exults in the Lord, My horn is exalted in my God." (1 Samuel 2:1) So, when Elizabeth greets Mary, Mary's song "spills out": "My being proclaims the greatness of the Lord, My spirit finds joy in God my savior..." (Luke 1:46-47)

After first listening to Pat and Eileen read two different translations of the Visitation narrative from the Gospel according to Saint Luke (Luke 1:39-56), Bill Plunkert led the retreaters through a contemplative prayer exercise. Reflecting deeply, retreaters attempted to still their thoughts and observe or even enter into the scene in Zechariah's house. After reflection, some shared new perspectives, things about the Visitation narrative they had not before considered.

After experiencing the gifts of Holy Mass and then the gift of lunch courtesy of Johnna Harris, John Weidner and Debbie Harriman shared stories of religious art they had been gifted and Tom and Cindy Jessee shared highlights from their recent journey to Fatima.

May God continue to bless us with an abundance of gifts and may the Holy Spirit inspire us to use them to accomplish His Will!



The Shriners collect can tabs and use the money to fund drivers who take the children and their parents to have treatments at Shriner Hospitals. They often travel to Ohio, Pennsylvania, Boston, Greenville, and Lexington. They have earned over 1.5 million dollars over the years from the tabs.

A lady in my quilting guild is one of their drivers, and so we all collect tabs for her. I am in hopes that you will start taking a few seconds to snap the tabs off your drinks and keep them for me.

I have a marked bucket for them on the ministry table in the Narthex.

I appreciate your help as I am sure the children and their parents are so grateful also.

Thanks so much! Eileen

ORDINARY TIME

We have now re-entered the period of the Liturgical year entitled Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time refers to all of those parts of the Catholic Church's liturgical year that aren't included in the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. Ordinary Time thus encompasses two different periods in the Church's calendar, since the Christmas season immediately follows Advent, and the Easter season immediately follows Lent.

Because of the term ordinary in English most often means something that's not special or distinctive, many people think that Ordinary Time refers to parts of the calendar of the Catholic Church that are unimportant. Even though the

season of Ordinary Time makes up most of the liturgical year in the Catholic Church, the fact that Ordinary Time refers to those periods that fall outside of the major liturgical seasons reinforces this impression. Yet Ordinary Time is far from unimportant or uninteresting.

The normal liturgical color for Ordinary Time for those days when there is no special Feast is green. Green

vestments and altar cloths have traditionally been associated with the item after Pentecost, the period in which the Church founded by the risen Christ and enlivened by the Holy Spirit began to grow and to spread the Gospel to all nations.



PARISH PICNIC

My heart felt thanks to a wonderful and energetic group of parish life volunteers. We had three wonderful enjoyable social events in May for the benefit of the parish. These tireless workers deserve a few months rest.

We will see you again for Social Sunday in September. Enjoy you summer. Iohnna



WINNER AGAIN

Parishioner Becky Nunn has done it again, Being crowned Ms. Senior Earth 80tys in Branson, Missouri, on May 30th. Becky represented the state of Virginia in the contest and will be promoting the pageant throughout the coming year.



A FATHER'S DAY PRAYER

Bless those fathers, who have taken it upon themselves the responsibility of parenting.

Bless those fathers, who have lost a spouse to death...or divorce, who are parenting their children alone.

Bless those fathers, who when the money runs low and when we need things; they provide.

Bless those fathers, who love unconditionally when they think they can't and they do.

Bless our fathers and give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way.

Bless our fathers by strengthening them with Your love that they may become the loving, caring fathers they are meant to be.

Bless our fathers by guiding them to be good role models and love all Your children.

Bless our fathers who choose to be brave and serve in the military. Thank you to the fathers who protect us, when we are scared and

Bless our fathers that with Your help, will be a father like You.

God, grant that we, their sons and daughters, will always honor them, love them and respect them.

God, heavenly father, bless all the fathers in the world. We ask you to grant this through Christ Our Lord and the Holy Spirit.



KOC PANCAKE BREAKFAST NEXT WEEK

The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Pancake Breakfast on June 23rd after Mass. Pancake Sreakfas The menu will be pancakes, sausage, juice & coffee.

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

Donations accepted.



Please pray for the following:

Ricky Suyes, Thomas Dreelin, Bernie Bernhardt & Rollin Cowles



PARISHIONERS

Betty Johnson, Helen Linden, Dot Edwards, Walt & Kari Lee Donovan, Peggy Williams, Lynne McMurtrie, Barbara Smith, Germaine 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.

FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Ed Haurand, Bill Sassok, John Wohleking, Christopher Seay, Brian Patrick Dubicki, 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, 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

Pat Garratt, Mable Kato, David Bromley, 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.

ST NOA UPDATE

As you are aware, we continue to support St Noa School in Uganda, a school we built in conjunction with Francis de Sales. The joint venture has transformed the community and saved children from having to trek many miles through uncertain and dangerous territory to receive a basic education.

Father Gerry recently reported that the money we have sent to the school the past few months from our special collections has paid for teachers' continuing education, new textbooks for an integrated curriculum, new desktop computers, and food supplies.





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 o Bobby Warren

Your Family Arlene, L.C., Faye, Caitlyn & Courtlyn

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. f 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 anvwav

Breathe in Love, Exhale Peace.



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



Loving Memory

Alma and Fritz Sitterding

Supporting Our Youth

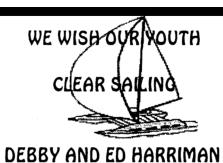
TO SUPPORT OUR YOUTH. THEIR DREAMS, & OUR FUTURE.

Lynne & Gary Richardson

Thanks for always supporting us in everything we do! Emily & Anna

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-Clarence D. Jones. Prop.-



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 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 Memory of Вов 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





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

Wells

Forever,

OUR LADY OF THE BAY **COUNCIL 11210**



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







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

Barb & Tori



Al Langer 804-815-1328

Helping Our Youth **Build Their Future**



Limerick II Enterprises

Tom Shoemaker In Memory of JoAn







but in thankfulness that he was".

We Support The Youth Scholarship



Lewis Forte





"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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