

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

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E-Mail: office@COVTopping.org

Website: www.church-of-the-visitation.org



24th Sunday In Ordinary Time
"Catechetical Sunday"
September 15, 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 OCIA 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
OCIA/Adult Formation: John Weidner
Pastoral Care: Lynne Richardson
Administration: Ray Kostaskey

FINANCE COUNCIL

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

PARISH COUNCIL

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

Church Secretary, Andrea Moore
Webmaster/IT, Mike Dreelin

MASS/MUSIC

Entrance: As We Gather At The Table #316

"Loving and Forgiving" #662

Penitential Act: page 4

Lord Have Mercy #914

Glory To God #915

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4c-9a

Responsorial Psalm: I will Walk Before the Lord,
in the land of the living.

Second Reading: James 2:14-18

Gospel Acclamation: May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.

Gospel: Mark 8:27-35

Homily: Father Miller

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: Center Of My Life #509

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: Shepherd Me O God \$480

Meditation: Christ Before Us #416

Recessional: Lift High The Cross #717



September Birthdays

2nd-Deborah Hamay & Genji Katsuki, 4th-Larry Miller,
8th-Lucas & Henry Clair, 9th-Mary Sychterz, 10th-Eileen O'Brien,
12th-Colleen DeLucas, 15th-Cindy Jessee, 13th-Donna Plunkert, Pam
Seay & Terry Hess, 14th-Linda Peterson, 20th-Shelley Katsuki, 21st-Emily
Filippi & Alan Richardson, 22nd-Joyce Ballato, 26th-Maria Tyrrell.

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



September Anniversaries

8th-John & Diane Weidner, 10th-Steve & Lorraine Kirsch, 12th-Bryan &
Jennifer Miller, 17th-Genji & Shelley Katsuki, 30th-Dan & Linda Peterson.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today-24th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Fr. Brownell
September 14th-Italian Feast KOC 5:00pm-7:00pm
September 17th-Parish Council 3pm
September 18th & 19th-Daily Prayer @ 9am
September 22nd-25th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Fr. Brownell
September 25 & 26th-Daily Prayer
September 29-26th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Fr. Brownell/
KOC Pancake Breakfast
October 2nd & 3rd-No Daily Mass or Adoration
October 6th-27th Sunday in Ordinary Time "Welcome home Father!"

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

September 15, 2024

Sacristy Duty: Delagrange

Community Leader: Harriman

Altar Server: Smith/Ambrose

Lectors: Dubicki/O'Brien

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Wolski

Chalice: Gray/Marcel/Harvey/Seay

Music: Powers

Counters: Tutak/Harvey

September 22, 2024

Sacristy Duty: Delagrange

Community Leader: Richardson

Altar Server: Miller/Dorman

Lectors: Ballato/Nunn

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Wolski

Chalice: Petralia/Gray/Seay

Music:

Counters: Harris/Hollingsworth

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from September 8, 2024

Collection:	\$ 2,806
Second Collection:	
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 26,223
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 27,476
Loan Balance:	\$ 126,045

Our second collection today is for St. Noa School.

We signed the following principal checks this week:
\$831 Pastor and Rectory Expense for August;
\$203 Adult Education Expense.



LEGACY

Have you received an inheritance? If so, consider gifting part of the inheritance to your church in memory of the loved one who remembered you. You can make this gift now or in your estate plan.

At the death of a special friend or relative you might like to remember that person through a memorial gift to your church. This will show your appreciation for this treasured relationship and help others through the church. An acknowledgment card will be sent to the surviving family, letting them know of your gift, without disclosing the amount.

Your gifts to your church are a testimony to your faith and the confidence you have in your church. Both lifetime gifts and testamentary (given through your will) gifts express your feelings in a meaningful way.



Potential
Promise & Purpose

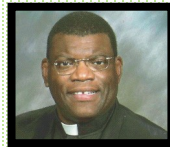
RECURRING EVENTS

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-KOC meeting starts 5:15pm (Al Langer)
2nd & 4th-Monday each month at 1:00pm Shawl Ministry (Sandi Delagrange)
1st-Friday each month at 9:00; other weeks on Thursdays at 9:45am- COV Gals.
(Louise Petralia/Eileen O'Brien)
2nd-Thursday of the month Liturgy Meeting (Noelle Harvey)



SUPPORTER OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP


Vera & John England
Christine & Peggy Williams
Kathy Kauffman
Gene & Anne Wolski
Jack & Laurie King
Terry Skovera
Bill & Donna Plunkert
Norbert & Kathryn Bliley
Dan & Linda Peterson
Tommy & Donna Lange
Charles & Louise Hartz
Dave & Emily Filippi



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 2025

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

September 15, 2024

FAITH AND WORKS

This take home lesson is drawn from commentary by scripture scholar Eric J. Wagner found in our Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers and Proclaimers of the Word.

Today's first reading is taken from one of the four Servant Songs from the book of Isaiah. The identity of the servant is intentionally vague. The servant has a close relationship with God, who has opened the servant's ears. We heard this message of "opening" in last week's Gospel when Jesus opened the deaf man's ears. Isaiah points out that having ears opened to God's message and remaining loyal to God can lead to great suffering. Fully convinced that God will support him if a trial is brought against him, the servant repeatedly taunts potential contenders, daring them to confront him and his cause. In the servant, we see that being loyal to God may mean suffering. At the same time, we also recognize that loyalty hardened through suffering can lead to courage and boldness of the highest order.

With strong rhetoric similar to that of the passage from Isaiah, Saint James poses a series of demanding questions to his audience: What good is faith without works? Can faith save? What good is such faith? Christians to this day wrestle with these questions: What difference does our faith in God make? James is not saying that faith comes from works. He is well aware that faith in God is an unmerited gift. No one could earn faith in God by their works. If a disciple of Christ should have to endure suffering like Isaiah's servant, then support for claiming to have faith in Christ is found, according to James, in actions that match that claim. By providing for the daily needs of those who would otherwise go without, Christ's disciples embody the faith they freely receive from God. Through such works Christians make Christ present in the world. Thus, by engaging in acts of care rooted in faith, the deeds of Christians demonstrate their faith.

Finally, in today's Gospel, Jesus tests his disciple's commitment and invites them to consider his importance in their lives. He imparts a deeper lesson: following God entails inevitable conflict and suffering because there are always those who would compete with God's rightful claim to ultimate authority. In rebuking Peter, Jesus affirms that to believe in him as God's anointed and to follow him as such is to anticipate suffering in this world because worldly authority has been corrupted. So, as with Isaiah's servant and James' audience, Jesus highlights that his disciples can anticipate hardship and suffering because their actions must reflect their faith in him. But suffering-laden discipleship also entails an unparalleled promise: to lose one's life for the Gospel means salvation.

Our question this week is: Why should faith always lead to good works?

A STORY ABOUT VIETNAM VETERANS AND GOD'S GRACE

This is a story about Vietnam Veterans and God's grace, reported by John Weidner, as told by Becky Nunn. It concerns Albert "Spike" Nunn, Becky's husband of 59 years, who passed away on March 28, 2024.

John went over to Becky's home on July 23, a very hot and very humid day, to pick up Spike's collection of Bibles and theology books per Spike's wish that the collection pass along to the Church of the Visitation. Spike's collection filled seven cardboard boxes and three plastic crates. About midway through John carrying boxes out to his car, Becky asked him if he wanted something to drink. John declined her first offer but thought better as he was taking out the last box.

John sat down at the dining room table with a glass of ice water and saw, in a frame on the table, the photo of Spike in his flight suit in front of an A-4 Skyhawk. This is the same photo that runs every week in the bulletin. Becky talked about how Spike had attended the Air Force Academy but left early in 1961 to go directly into Marine Corps pilot training. The conversation paused while Becky took a call from an aviation organization responding to notice of Spike's death. After the call, Becky remarked that Spike had flown for many years for American Airlines.

John told Becky that a good friend and classmate of his from the Naval Academy had flown helicopters for the Marines and had also flown for American after he left active duty. John added that his friend had flown missions at Beirut after the barracks bombing and in combat at the Grenada invasion and that he and some of his crew were still dealing with PTSD - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Becky said that Spike had also suffered with PTSD. She said that he never talked much about Vietnam, but there was one particular story that Spike had shared with his brother one evening over drinks and that he had also told to Becky. As far as she knew, she and Spike's brother were the only two people who had heard Spike's story.

Spike was flying support for troops on the ground and a forward observer called out on the radio circuit for any U.S. fighter bombers in the area. Spike responded and the forward observer told him that U.S. forces were being overrun and they needed bombs dropped on a specific position. Spike got the coordinates, and he told the forward observer, "I can't drop anything there. We have friendlies there. Our guys are there." The forward observer says to Spike, "I know. I'm one of those guys. If you don't drop everything you have on us right now, we'll be overrun. We're digging in. Don't worry about us. We'll keep our heads down. Drop everything you've got right now!" So, Spike dropped his bombs and felt terrible that he had probably killed his own guys. He couldn't help but worry, for years and years, about those guys on the ground. Spike told Becky, "It eats at me all the time."

In late 2020/early 2021, Spike was in counseling for PTSD in Newport News, and he was also seeing a neurologist in Richmond. One day Spike and Becky were waiting for an appointment at the neurology clinic in Richmond. Spike was wearing a Marine Aviation baseball cap. Another man, obviously a Veteran, came up and asked Spike if he had flown in Vietnam. Spike said that, yes, he had flown the A-4 Skyhawk in Vietnam. The other Veteran said, "I love the A4. That plane saved my life. I was a forward observer, and we were being overrun, and I told the pilot to drop everything he had, and not to worry about us, we'll keep our heads down. I'll never forget that guy, call sign "Shady". He saved our lives."

And Spike says, "That was me. I'm Shady." That gave way to a lot of hugging and tears among Spike and the Veteran and Becky.

Two weeks later, Spike went to an appointment with his PTSD counselor in Newport News and told the counselor about the reunion with the Forward Observer. The counselor told Spike, "You don't need any more counseling."

That's how Becky ended the story. John made some sort of comment about how wonderful it is that God put those two men together in the neurology clinic hallway, well over fifty years from the last and only time they had ever interacted. By the grace of God, Spike met the man who could bring peace to his troubled mind.

And by the grace of God, John decided to sit for a glass of water, Becky mentioned American Airlines, and John in turn mentioned his friend's PTSD. If either of those things had not been mentioned, there is a very good chance you would not be reading this story.

Lord, through your abundant grace, make us instruments of your peace.





A PRAYER FOR CATECHISTS

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists.
We thank you for their gift of ministry in our Church.

Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.

Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them wisdom about what is important; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgement about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son.

We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A TEXT FROM FATHER KOO

Hi Ray, good morning and hope you are good. I'm doing great here. Had a beautiful ordination of 16 priests and our Thanksgiving Masses made my weekend very busy. How's everything going? So far so good here. You can reach me via SMS on this phone and +233208115860 is my Ghana number. I had a successful visa interview. Providentially, I had a slot for an earlier visa interview and God was so good because everything went well. I'm waiting to pick up my passport with the visa whenever I'm called to the embassy. Thanks for your prayers and the prayers from the entire parish community. Kindly extend my love and gratitude to all. I'll continue to keep you posted.



WELCOME BACK

Father Brownell will be with us September 15th, 22nd & 30th.

WEEKLY PRAYER

Just a reminder that weekly prayer is still being held on Wednesday and Thursdays at 9am. "All are Welcome and encouraged to participate" We know that Jesus said: "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20)



Please pray for the following:



Spike Nunn, Ann Melvin, John Gascoign, Nancy Dixon, and Bill Nunn

PARISHIONERS

Maggie Gerdts, Betty Johnson, 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 Krumb, 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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Justin Harvey, The Daly Family, Bill Sassok, John Wohleking, Christopher Seay, Brian Patrick Dubicki, Lynn Messina, Shirley Schultz, Gene Sullivan, Dr. Nicole Touchet, Grace Anderson, Gloria Powell, Chloe Pearson, Mia Angelis, the Angelis family, Debbie Stockhorst, 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, Joanne & Lisa Ferari, Barbara & Ron Burkhart, John Calvin Barnard, Joseph Borzelleca, Andy Hetzer, Sandy Alter, Ryan Jessee, Larry Hersh, Dominick Perry.

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Robert Lyon, Gabe Burger, Pam Brazelton, Jim Bruso Jr., Valerie McCarthey, 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, Roin 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.

GRIEF SHARE LINK

At GriefShare you'll receive valuable guidance and tips, leading you to relief, comfort, and peace of mind.

Find local churches <https://www.griefshare.org/>

ALTAR FLOWERS

In memory of Our Parents

Frank & Terry Sisto



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.

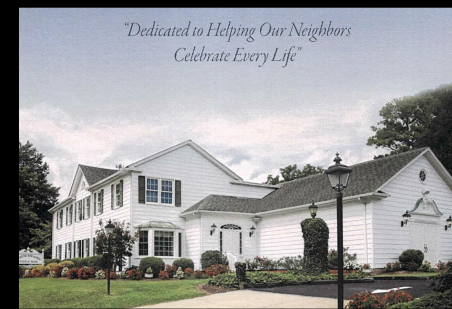
Activities that provide funding: Pancake Breakfast, Italian Feast, St. Pat's Dinner, KOVAR Collection, Dave Marchant Golf Tournament.

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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Helping Our Youth Build Their Future



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In Memory of JoAn



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.

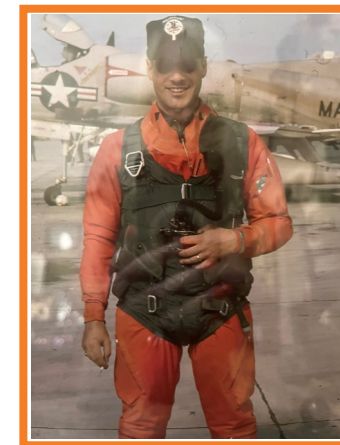


In Loving Memory of Carmen and David Brinkley

In Loving Memory of Vincent "Poppy" & Vinnie Recupido
The Recupido & Hollingsworth Families

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

Lynne & Gary Richardson

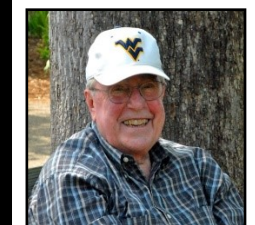


In memory of my beloved Spike. Where he was, there was Eden
Love Forever,
Becky



In Loving Memory of Bobby Warren
Your Family
Arlene,
L.C., Faye,
Caitlyn & Courtlyn

"Gone but not to be forgotten"



In loving memory of our Father Bob Nash




In Loving Memory of Alma and Fritz Sitterding

Supporting Our Youth

Thanks for always supporting us in everything we do!

♥ Emily & Anna

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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


Pray that the youth of today will help make the world a better place for tomorrow.

Frank & Terry Sisto

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I love and miss you.
♥
Jim

"I am the good shepherd... and I will lay down my life for the sheep."
(John 10:14)
John and Diane Weidner


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

BY THE BAY
STAINED GLASS
Al Langer 804-815-1328

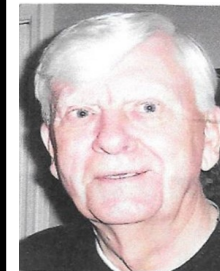


Thank you for your service to this country. Your bravery, sacrifice, and strength do not go unnoticed, and we will always be indebted to you and your family for all that you have given to this country.

In Memory of
Bob Hartman
My Love of My Life
Jenny

In loving memory of
Marty Hawksworth
Tom & Sharon


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Branch Manager
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M: 804.832.2330
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NMLS# 1914115
cffc.com



Kenneth Anderson


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



Lewis Forte

We Salute the Youth of Our Church and Their Important Journey.

Carmen & Joe Brinkley

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

BE A KNIGHT
Contact: Grand Knight
Al Langer
804-815-3515



OUR LADY OF THE BAY
COUNCIL 11210

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www.nblawplc.com


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

In Loving Memory of
Reinald Carter
&
Mary Borzelleca
Mike and Gretchen Borzelleca