

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



First Sunday of Lent
March 9, 2025 Year C

PARISH MINISTRIES

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

FINANCE COUNCIL

Debby Harriman
Tom Hawksworth
Tom Jessee
Debbie McNeil
Gary Richardson
Fritz Sitterding-Chairman
Anne Wolski

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

PARISH COUNCIL (elected members)

Kevin Hayes
Cindy Jessee-Vice Chair
Shelley Katsuki-Secretary
Steve Kirsch
Helen Linden
Dave Marcil
Mary Ellen Sherwood
John Weidner-Chair
Peggy Williams

Church Secretary, Andrea Moore
Webmaster/IT, Mike Dreelin

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.

MASS/MUSIC

Entrance: As We Gather At your Table #311

"Loving and Forgiving" #653

Penitential Act: page 4

Lord Have Mercy #896 Glory To God #897

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Responsorial Psalm: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13

Gospel Acclamation: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Homily: Father Koo

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: Ashes To Ashes #139

Holy: #900

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: #905

Communion: Hosea #654

Meditation: Be Still And Know That I Am God #461

Recessional: We Belong To You #635

March Birthdays



1st-David Bushey & Melissa Cabocel, 5th-Tommy Lange,
7th-Mark Levy, 8th-Sandi Delagrane & Patrick O'Donnell,
15th-Tori Hollingsworth & Gloria Matthews, 20th-Gary
Richardson, 21st-Peggy Williams, 23rd-Barbara Morrison,
24th-Barbara Hollingsworth, 25th-Michael Pycha, 29th-Eugene
Wolski, 30th-Michele Meanley & Joe Sychterz.

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



March Anniversaries

13th-Jan & Nathalie Smith, 15th-Frank & Gerri Lohr,
24th-Bill & Johnna Harris

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today-First Sunday of Lent (daylight savings time) ☺
March 12th-1st Stations of the Cross and Soup #1 5:30pm
March 15th-Lenten Retreat "Anchored In Christ" 8:30am
March 16th-2nd Sunday of Lent
March 19th-Stations of the Cross and Soup #2 5:30pm
March 20th-1st Day of Spring
March 23rd-3rd Sunday of Lent/KOC Pancake Breakfast

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

March 9, 2025

Sacristy Duty: Delagrane Community Leader: Puttmann
Altar Server: Kirsch Lectors: Weidner/Nunn
Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Wolski
Chalice: Marcil/Richardson/Gray/Smith
Music: Smith Counters: King/Angell

March 16, 2025

Sacristy Duty: Delagrane Community Leader: Richardson
Altar Server: Kstesky/Ambrose Lectors: Dorman/O'Brien
Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Harriman
Chalice: Donovan/Harvey/Gray/Smith
Music: Lohr Counters: Tutak/Harvey

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from March 2, 2025

Collection:	\$ 2,700
Second Collection: Debt Reduction	\$ 804
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 90,135
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 88,024
Loan Balance:	\$ 100,162



There is no second collection today.

We signed the following principal checks this week:
\$663 General repair expenses; \$307 Rectory repairs.

LEGACY



Members of our church gather each week around the communion table, reciting the words of Christ and participating in the sacred meal "in remembrance" of Jesus. That gift has been handed down generation to generation.

As we recall the names of those who have died, our minds are filled with precious memories. We are their legacy, and much of what we have – in both material and non-material things – have been handed down to us from them. But what will we hand down to those who follow? How will we be remembered? Will we leave more than an empty spot in a pew?

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 Delagrane)
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
William Durham-Auctioneer



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

GOT CATHOLIC QUESTIONS?
OCIA HAS ANSWERS!

OCIA stands for the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults. In short, it is the process through which catechumens, who are unbaptized adults or older children, are formed in the teachings of the Catholicism and are initiated into the Catholic Church. This process may also include baptized adult Christians or Catholics who are preparing to receive the sacraments of confirmation and Eucharist. Baptized persons moving through OCIA are known as candidates.

Our parish Adult Faith Formation team has begun meeting with two candidates and will be working through a set of Inquiry lessons over the next few months according to the following schedule:

- March 9th Q3: The Holy Trinity;
Q4: Who is Jesus Christ?
- March 30th Q5: The Bible; Q6: Divine Revelation
- April 6th Q7: Your Prayer Life,
Q8: Catholic Prayers and Practices
- April 13th Q9: The Mass;
C5: The Sacrament of the Eucharist
- April 27th Q10: The Church Year;
Q11: Places in a Catholic Church
- May 4th Q12: Who Shepherds the Church?;
Q13: The Church as Community
- May 18th Q14: Mary; Q15: The Saints
- June 8th Q16: Eschatology: the "Last Things"

We meet after Mass in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone is welcome to join. While the discussions use structured materials, we try to set a casual mood and welcome all questions, even those that may fall outside the scope of the prepared lesson.

For further information about OCIA and how it could be adapted to the person you would like to see in full communion with the Catholic Church, contact John Weidner, Dave Marcil, or the church office.



LENT, TRIDUUM, AND EASTER



In a slight departure from previous practice, we will celebrate the Stations of the Cross with soup initially on Wednesdays and later in Lent on Fridays, as is traditional throughout the church.

The Triduum (Holy Thursday through the Easter Vigil) will be held at FdS this year.

The reconciliation service at COV is scheduled for April 9th @ 6pm, and FdS April 3rd @ 6:30pm.

On the admin table in the Narthex are the "Little Black Books" to assist you in your Lenten devotions. If you desire to participate in the Rice Bowl, the bowls are also on the Admin table.

Some other practices we should be aware of are; The Alleluia is not used until the Easter Vigil; the Altar should not be decorated with flowers except for the Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday); there are two solemnities during Lent, March 19th-Solemnity of St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin and March 25th-Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord.

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE DURING LENT

Fasting is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

Abstinence is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the parish priest should be consulted.

All the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting.



JOURNEY THROUGH THE BIBLE: THE QUEST FOR HOLINESS (LEVITICUS 1-27)

This commentary is adapted from Little Rock Scripture Study's "Panorama of the Old Testament."

If you have been following the reading plan, you would have completed reading Leviticus, the third book of the Pentateuch about two weeks ago, on February 20. Next week's commentary will be a summary of the fifth and final book of the Pentateuch, Deuteronomy.

Leviticus is collection of covenant legislation regarding worship and the priesthood. Because God has come to dwell with the Israelites, they must become and remain a holy people, a people set apart for God. They must live in a way that reflects the holiness and closeness of God among them.

Holiness has both a positive and negative aspect. It is an attachment to God, a way of living that gives honor to God and that recognizes the sacredness of others. Holiness is also a separation from whatever is unholy, impure, unclean or sinful. Everything dedicated to God - the place of worship, the priests, and the feasts - were set aside from ordinary life and consecrated.

The first part of the book, Leviticus 1-7, describes the rituals for different kinds of scarifies and offerings. The second section, Leviticus 8-10, describes the ordination ritual for Aaron, the brother of Moses, and the sons of Aaron. The third part, Leviticus 11-16, is the code of laws regarding legal purity, many related to deep respect for blood and sexuality. Israel knows that life is a holy mystery with its source in God and that life is intimately connected with blood and sexuality.

The final section, Leviticus 17-26, is the collection of holiness laws. These regulations concern all aspects of Israel's existence as a holy people whose life is oriented toward worship of God. In addition to moral laws, Israel has its calendar of feasts to help it recognize the holiness of time. Every week, the Sabbath must be observed. Every year, Israel celebrates the feats of Passover (Pesach), Pentecost (Shavuot), New Year (Rosh Hashanah), Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), and Tabernacles (Succoth). The every seventh year, the Sabbatical year, provides for a time of rest even for the fields, and every seventh Sabbatical year (every fifty years) brings the Jubilee year, a time of reconciliation and renewal for all of Israel.

All of the legislation of Leviticus is intended to order Israel's life with God. It deals with the reality of an all-holy God living in the midst of a less-than-holy people. It teaches them that God is the source of all life and holiness. All that relates to sin and death is kept apart from the presence pf God. God alone has the power to completely conquer sin and death, a promise that God will make throughout the history of his people in the land.

MARK YOUR CALANDERS

Saturday, March 29th, 9:00-12:30 at COV.
"Learning to Love Longevity: Embracing Elder Roles"
Sign up sheet is located in the Narthex.
Please see Mary Flaherty @ FdS or call -
Lynne Richardson @ 571-239-0980 to register/questions.



ADDRESS UPDATE

Elena and Lisenka Wunder
11734 Blasting Way
Von Ormy, TX 78073
Lisenkaw@outlook.com



Journey Through the Bible Readings and Daily Prayer Points

Mar 9 through Mar 15, 2025

Sun, Mar 9: Bible Readings (Day 68): Numbers 19-20; Deuteronomy 21; Psalm 100

*Prayer Point: Grant us this Lent the grace to put our trust in you

Mon, Mar 10: Bible Readings (Day 69): Numbers 21; Deuteronomy 22; Psalm 102

*Prayer Point: Help us to mend our selfish ways

Tue, Mar 11: Bible Readings (Day 70): Numbers 22; Deuteronomy 23; Psalm 105

*Prayer Point: For an end to jealousy and gossip in our neighborhoods

Wed, Mar 12: Bible Readings (Day 71): Numbers 23; Deuteronomy 24-25; Psalm 106

*Prayer Point: For the gift of hope

Thu, Mar 13: Bible Readings (Day 72): Numbers 24-25; Deuteronomy 26; Psalm 107

*Prayer Point: For food for the hungry

Fri, Mar 14: Bible Readings (Day 73): Numbers 26; Deuteronomy 27; Psalm 111

*Prayer Point: Guard us from evil!

Sat, Mar 15: Bible Readings (Day 74): Numbers 27-28; Deuteronomy 28; Psalm 112

*Prayer Point: For discernment of our gifts and the courage to use them well



Please pray for the following



In Memoriam:

William LeCompte & Kathleen Paul Anspach

PARISHIONERS

Suzanne Sitterding, Mike Dreelin, Bob Borden, John McCormack, Donna Lange, Bill Campbell, Maggie Gerds, Betty Johnson, Dot Edwards, Peggy Williams, Barbara Smith, Germaine Hayes, 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, Tom Hawksworth, Linda Gray, Pat Reamy, Lynn Vajda.

FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Martha Buesinger, Michele MacFarland, Joseph Borzelleca, Larry Hersh, Patty Pace, Polly Beall, Dick Patton, Peggy Smith, Brian Dubicki, Anthony Pace, John & Debbie Stockhorst, Lester Stockhorst, KJ Edwards, Alex Brown, Chloe Pearson, Tom Delagrange, John Calvin Barnard, Justin Harvey, John Wohleking, Christopher Seay, Lynn Messina, Gene Sullivan, Diane Petralia, Andy Hetzer, Ryan Jessee, Eric Currie.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Gay Ruff, Melanie Crittenden, Dave Gunn, Alex Brown, Jim Brusio Jr., Allen Hines, Linda Cryer, Kathy Goynne, Elizabeth Panzer, Valerie McCarthey, Karen Armstrong.

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.

FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION



Please stay after Mass next week for cake and coffee in celebration of Aden Calderin's First Communion. He will also be confirmed at St. Beede's on March 25th along with

Baylen Miller, Henry and Lucas Clair.

We are Blessed to have four youth receiving confirmation and will celebrate their Christian growth on Social Sunday, March 30th.



ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

As announced last week, the first of two in-pew process weekends for the Appeal occurs today. Many parishioners have received a Bishop's letter soliciting a donation, and the in-pew weekends give others an opportunity to participate as well. After Mass, Father will address the Appeal and during his remarks, the ushers will pass out Appeal envelopes and a brochure. Please fill them out as appropriate and

either mail it to the Diocese or return it next week and place it in the Collection basket. As an alternative, a QR Code is in the bulletin for your donation, if desired.

As a Mission Parish, half of the donations received by the Diocese will be returned to us. In the past, we have been the beneficiary of Grants from several of the organizations supported by the Appeal. This year, those Grants totaled \$12,500.

Our parish goal is \$8,880, an 8% increase over last year, and a formidable task. As you decide whether to make a donation and an amount, please consider the appeal's needs and the fact we benefit greatly from your generosity.



Forwarding
All
Issues
To
Heaven



OUR LADY OF THE BAY COUNCIL II210 OF MATHEWS/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.

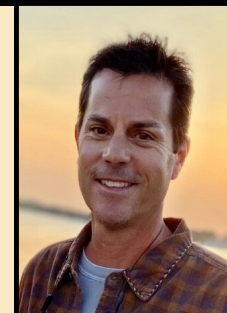
*Activities that provide funding: Pancake Breakfast, Italian Feast, St. Pat's Dinner, KOVAR Collection, Dave Marchant Golf Tournament.

*We are active participants in many ministries to include Alter servers, Choir members, Collection counter, Community Leaders, Eucharistic Ministers, Parish Council Members and Ushers.

In memory of
our son

Christian Strotmeyer

John & Pam
Strotmeyer



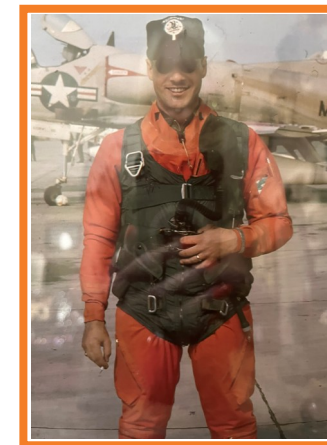
The KOC meet at 5:15pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Church of the Visitation.

We start with the Rosary.

All are welcome! Any questions call

Our Grand Knight -

Al Langer at 804-815-1328.



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

"Dedicated to Helping Our Neighbors
Celebrate Every Life"



Faulkner Funeral Homes
& Cremation Services

PO Box 228
Saluda, VA 231649

804-758-2315

bristowfaulkner@faulknerfuneralhcs.com



In Loving Memory of
Bobby Warren

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

"Gone but not to be forgotten"

Helping Our Youth
Build Their Future



Limerick II Enterprises
Construction Management Services

Tom Shoemaker
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

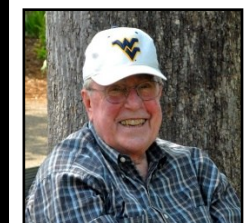
In Loving Memory of
Vincent "Poppy" &
Vinnie Recupido
The Recupido &
Hollingsworth Families



In
Loving Memory
Of

Alma and Fritz Sitterding

Supporting Our Youth




In loving memory of our Father Bob Nash

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
Cell Phone: 804-512-9210
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

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

True Value
HURD'S, INC.
Where Shopping Is Fun
Deltaville, VA 23043 (804) 776-9241



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

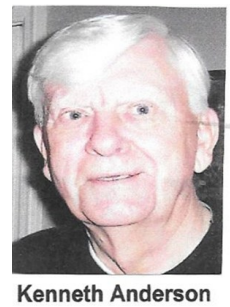
BY THE BAY
STAINED GLASS
Al Langer 804-815-1328


Thank you for supporting our education
Michael, Colin, Kathryn, John & Kevin Walsh

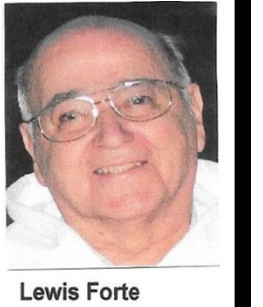
In Memory of
Bob Hartman
My Love of My Life
Jenny

In loving memory of
Marty Hawksworth
Tom & Sharon


Kasey Law
Assistant Vice President
Branch Manager
klaw@cffc.com
O: 804.758.3641 x10801
M: 804.832.2330
F: 804.800.4593
NMLS# 1914115
cffc.com




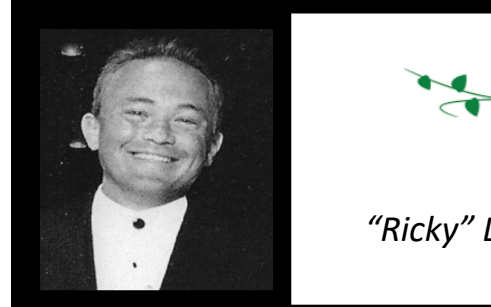

"Say not in grief 'he is no more' but in thankfulness that he was".



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

NB NGUYEN | BALLATO
Michael B. Ballato, Esq.
2201 Libbie Avenue
Richmond, VA 23230
804-788-7070
mbb@nblawpic.com
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