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



5th Sunday of Easter May 18, 2025 First Holy Communion

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 Kostesky

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: Christians Let Us Love One Another #425 "Loving and Forgiving" #653

Penitential Act: page 4

Lord Have Mercy #896 Glory To God #897

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52

Responsorial Psalm: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9,14b

Gospel Acclamation: Christ is risen, creator of all; he has shown

pity on all people.

Gospel: John 10:27-30 Homily: Father Koo

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: All People That On Earth Do Dwell #313

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: Where Charity and Love Prevail #429

Meditation: Here At Your Table #309

Recessional: All The Ends Of The Earth #549

May Birthdays

1st-Pat DeGroot, 3rd-Scott Kauffman, 5th-LynnVajda, 6th-Camdyn Putney, 8th-Donna Lange, 9th-Denise Miller, 10th-Terry Skovera, 13th-Mike Harvey, 14th-Nicholas Wohleking, 15th-Nikii Ambrose, 18th-Don Delagrange & Grace Puleo, 20th-Mary Coyle, 21st, Billy Coyle, 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

6th-Jacob & Kim Lovejoy, 11th-Bob & Maura Puleo

UPCOMING EVENTS



MARK YOUR

CALENDAR!

Today-5th Sunday of Easter-Social Sunday, 1st Holy Communion, EMC Renewal of Commitment Blessing.

May 22nd-Parish Council 3pm

May 25th-6th Sunday of Easter and Pancake Breakfast

May 31st-Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mother TBD

June 1st-The Ascension of the Lord-visiting priest

June 5th-Adoration 10:00am

June 14th-Mass of the Resurrection "Marge Dembeck" 1:00pm

May 18, 2025

Sacristy: Delagrange Community Leader: Hayes

Altar Server: Kostesky Lectors: Dubicki/Petralia

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Wolski

Chalice: Seay/Donovan/DeGroot/Marcil

Counters: Tutak/Wohleking/Dixon Music: Lohr

May 25, 2025

Sacristy Duty: Delagrange Community Leader: Harriman

Altar Server: Ambrose, Kirsch Lectors: O'Donnell/Nunn

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Wolski

Chalice: Seay/TBD

Music: Mears Counters: Harris/Hollingsworth

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from May 11, 2025

Collection:

Second Collection:

Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 121,486

Total Budget Projection: \$ 115,895

Loan Balance: \$ 97,014

Our second collection today is for Diocesan home Missions.

We signed the following principal checks this week: \$234 Tile Materials; \$554 April Electric.

LEGACY GIFTS OF STOCK

Have you ever heard that "wills are for rich people?" That's right! But they are also "for poor people" and for everyone in between. Your will relates to everything God has entrusted with you, and it can be a powerful statement of your Christian stewardship.

Who needs a will? Every adult who owns anything and who care about what happens to it, everyone who cares about their family, and everyone who wants to include their church's future in their estate planning needs a will.

When was the last time your will had a check-up? Does it express your desires? Does it include your church which means so much to you?

RECURRING EVENTS

Weekly-Sunday 8:30am-New Worship Area Rosary (Cindy Jessee) lst-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 9:00am; other weeks on Thursdays at 9:45am - COV Gals. (Louise Petralia/Eileen O'Brien)

2nd-Thursday of the month Liturgy Meeting (Noelle Harvey)





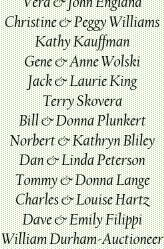






SUPPORTER OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP

Vera & John England Kathy Kauffman Gene & Anne Wolski Jack & Laurie King Terry Skovera Bill & Donna Plunkert Dan & Linda Peterson 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

Journey Through the Bible: Kings and Shepherds

Pope Leo XIV's first public words, delivered from the loggia of St. Peter's Basilica after being elected, were: "Peace be with all of you! Dear brothers and sisters, these were the first words spoken by the risen Christ, the Good Shepherd who laid down his life for God's flock." Later in these first words, Pope Leo speaks of a united Church, pursuing peace and justice.

These first words of Pope Leo fit well with Israel's pursuit of peace and justice during its time of monarchy. The Old Testament often presents little or no difference between the responsibilities of shepherds and the responsibilities of kings. Thus, David is found tending a flock when Samuel arrives to anoint him king.

Little Rock Scripture Study's "Panorama of the Old Testament" comments that for more than four centuries, the Israelites are administered by a monarchial form of government. The early period of the monarchy is a period of great prosperity and power for Israel, yet it also contains the seeds of its own destruction. Despite the glory of the kingdom, Samuel's warnings concerning the monarchy begin to play out during the reign of Israel's kings.

The kings of Israel primarily fulfill three different functions: military, legal, and religious. As the military leader of the nation, the king is responsible for the defense of the land and its people. This involves providing fortifications, drafting an army, furnishing weapons, waging war, creating alliances with neighbors, and establishing international policies and relations.

The king is also responsible for upholding justice in the land. He settles disputes that arise and adjudicates legal cases. The king must promote the well-being of all the people and especially support the rights of the poor, widows, and orphans of the land.

When the king is anointed, he becomes a unique instrument of God and a channel of God's blessings to the nation. Being particularly intimate with God, he is accountable for the religious institutions in the land, he holds authority over the priests and the worship of Israel, and he himself performs priestly functions and offers sacrifice on important occasions.

This summer, we will read in Jeremiah about the false rulers (shepherds) who have governed Israel poorly, who have scattered the LORD's flock, driven them away and not cared for them. The LORD will himself tend the flock and bring them back to the fold. "I will raise up shepherds for them who will shepherd them so that they need no longer fear or be terrified; none shall be missing. See, days are coming when I will raise up a righteous branch for David; As king he shall reign and govern wisely, he shall do what is right and just in the land." (Jeremiah 23:4-5)

ANNUAL APPEAL 2025

Father Koo sends his heartfelt thanks to the 56 families who donated to this year's Appeal for their generosity in reaching 198% of goal with a total of \$17,560 either already donated or pledged.

We still need 2 more families to participate to reach last years number, and the campaign is still active, so if you were considering a donation, be it large or small, let's beat last year's number.



CUDOS

Our many thanks to Jim Dixon for his timeless work last week in weeding, spraying, and blowing the parking free of debris. He toiled over three hours in the broiling sun in his endeavor.







REGRETS

On Friday, we celebrated a Mass of the Resurrection for Eleanor Hall, a former parishioner and mother of Richard Hall.

A HEARTY WELCOME BACK TO **OUR RETURNING PARISHIONERS**

Richard & Cathy Carney-Willard 201 Belle Aire Drive phone#941-979-6882 Hardyville, VA 23070 rmw.kcw@gmail.com



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.



Journey Through the Bible Readings and Daily Prayer Points May 18 through May 24, 2025

Sun, May 18: Bible Readings (Day 138): 2 Samuel 20; 1 Chronicles 25;

*Prayer Point: For little ones receiving Jesus for the first time in a special way

Mon, May 19: Bible Readings (Day 139): 2 Samuel 21; 1 Chronicles 26; Psalm 40

*Prayer Point: Lord Jesus Christ, keep Pope Leo XIV close to your Sacred Heart

Tue, May 20: Bible Readings (Day 140): 2 Samuel 22; 1 Chronicles 27; Psalm 41

*Prayer Point: God of justice, make right what we have made wrong

Wed, May 21: Bible Readings (Day 141): 2 Samuel 23; 1 Chronicles 28;

*Prayer Point: May we always live in you and bear fruit for your glory

Thu, May 22: Bible Readings (Day 142): 2 Samuel 24; 1 Chronicles 29;

*Prayer Point: Hold the lonely and abandoned by the hand and guide them to safety

Fri, May 23: Bible Readings (Day 143): 1 Kings 1; 2 Chronicles 1;

*Prayer Point: God of goodness, make holy what we have turned to our own selfish

Sat, May 24: Bible Readings (Day 144): 1 Kings 2; 2 Chronicles 2-3;

*Prayer Point: May the Lord bless and protect us all the days of our life

FIRST COMMUNION

Today we celebrate the First Communion of: Patrick Ambrose, Cayden Miller, Andrew Reyes, and Annabella Reyes. We share their blessings and pray that they will walk with Christ unto eternity.

SOCIAL SUNDAY IN MAY

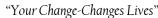
Today we will be celebrating First Communion and the EMHC Commissioning. Please plan to stay after for the celebration of all the events. Bring something to share with fellow parishioners.

SACRISTY MINISTRY

Our Sacristy Ministry is looking for interested individuals to join this important ministry. If you are interested in joining please see Sandi Delagrange after Mass or contact the church office.

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Thanks to everyone that donated during the Baby Bottle Campaign. Because of your generosity we will be providing Mary's Choice with \$1,528 that can be used to meet the needs of struggling Mothers.





Please pray for the following

In Memoriam: John Harlow, Patricia O'Shaughnessy, Father John Boddie, & Eleanor Hall

PARISHIONERS

Paul Dubicki, Jean Box, Suzanne Sitterding, John McCormack, Donna Lange, Bill Campbell, Maggie Gerdts, 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 Kramb, 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

Jill Shores, Lisa & Joann Ferari, Andy & Barb Woods, Carol Kelly, Elycse Hudson, 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.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Father Bob Brownell, Bobby Brizendine, Gay Ruff, Melanie Crittenden, Dave Gunn, Alex Brown, Jim Bruso Jr., Linda Cryer, Kathy Goyne, Elizabeth Panzer, Valerie McCarthey.

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.

THANK YOU

We want to thank the community of the Church of the Visitation for making the Baptism of our grandson Calvin such a wonderful and memorable occasion, especially Father Koo, Cindy and the choir, the nice reception, and the beautiful pictures that Cindy Jessee took.

On behalf of the parents and godparents of Calvin and our whole family we hold the warm welcome we got from everybody always dear to our heart.

Bob and Ingrid Borden





OUR LADY OF THE BAY COUNCIL 11210 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



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bristowfaulkner@faulknerfuneralhcs.com



In Loving Memory o 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

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. f you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; be kind anyway. you are successful, you will win some false friends and true enemies; succeed anyway 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 find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; be happy anyway.

he 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. ou see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God; it was never between you and them Live LOVE PEACE

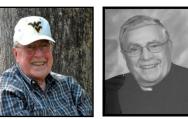
Breathe in Love, Exhale Peace.

In Loving Memory of

Carmen and David **Brinkley**

In Loving Memory of Vincent "Poppy" & Vinnie Recupido

The Recupido & Hollingsworth Families



In loving memory of our Father Bob Nash



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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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 your God Isaiah 41:10

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

Frank & Terry Sisto

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love and miss you.



Jim

Thank you for supporting our education

Michael, Colin, Kathryn, John & Kevin Walsh

In Memory of Вов Hartman My Love of My Life Jenny

In loving memory of Marty Hawksworth

Tom & Sharon

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,

Maríanne





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**

"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

"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

Al Langer 804-815-1328

Kasey Law Assistant Vice President Branch Manager

klaw@cffc.com

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NMLS# 1914115 cffc.com



Kenneth Anderson



We Support The Youth Scholarship

John & Carol McGormack

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



Lewis Forte



Bank Bank



"Ricky" David Richard Suyes III & Marie M. Suyes





Michael B. Ballato. Esa. 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