

The Catholic Church Of The Visitation

8462 General Puller Highway
P.O. Box 38

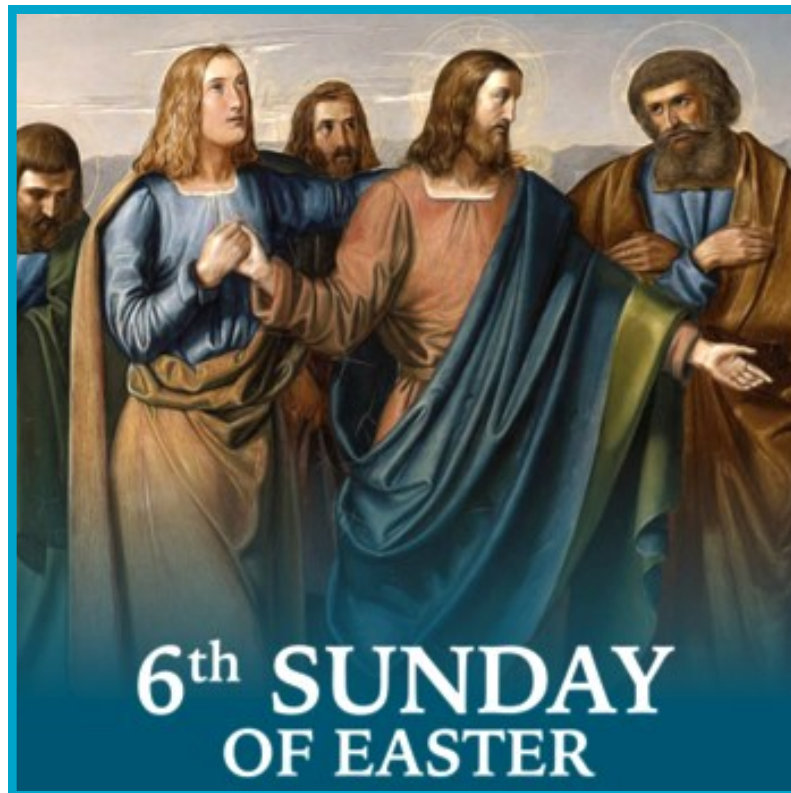
Topping, Virginia 23169

Phone: (804) 758-5160

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E-Mail: office@COVTopping.org

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



May 25, 2025

Memorial Day Weekend 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

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.

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

MASS/MUSIC

Entrance: All Are Welcome # 443

“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 15:1-2, 22-29

Responsorial Psalm: O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

Gospel Acclamation: Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

Gospel: John 14:23-29

Homily: Father Koo

Nicene Creed: page 9

Prayers of the Faithful Response: Lord hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: Peace is Flowing Like A River #507

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: Bread For The World #329

Meditation: If I Can Help Somebody

Recessional: Eternal Father Strong To Save #731



June Birthdays

1st-Fritz Sitterding, 2nd-Walt Donovan & Kim Lovejoy,
7th-Michele Puttmann, 10th-Jean Box, 11th-Sarah Woods,
13th-Charles Hartz, 14th-Johnna Harris, 17th-Arlene Warren,
20th-David Biederman, 21st-Marla Bury, 24th-Gerri Lohr,
25th-Zaida Wohleking, 26th-Una Kerrigan, 27th-Sharon
Hawksworth, Susan Seay & Carl Ambrose, 28th-Baylen Miller.

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



June Anniversaries

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

UPCOMING EVENTS



MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

Today--6th Sunday of Easter and Pancake Breakfast

May 31st-Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mother 9am Mass

June 1st-The Ascension of the Lord-Father Bruno

June 5th-Adoration 10:00am

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

May 25, 2025

Sacristy Duty: Linden

Community Leader: Harriman

Altar Server: Ambrose, Dorman

Lectors: O'Donnell/Nunn

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Wolski

Chalice: Seay/TBD

Music: Mears

Counters: Harris/Hollingsworth

June 1, 2025

Sacristy: Delagrang

Community Leader: Puttmann

Altar Server: Miller, Miller, Kirsch

Lectors: Weidner/O'Brien

Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: TBD

Chalice: TBD

Music: Filippi

Counters: O'Brien/Smith

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from May 18, 2025

Collection: \$ 2,086

Second Collection: Home Mission \$ 289

Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 123,472

Total Budget Projection: \$ 118,665

Loan Balance: \$ 97,014

There is no second collection today.

We signed the following principal checks this week:
\$211 Acoustic Materials; \$112 Monitoring Service.



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)

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 Delagrang)

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
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

Journey Through the Bible: The Reign of King Solomon (1 Kings)

This commentary is adapted from Little Rock Scripture Study’s “Panorama of the Old Testament”.

The book of 1 Kings begins with the rise of King Solomon. The son of David and Bathsheba, Solomon is chosen by his elderly father over several of his older brothers. He consolidates David’s kingdom during his long reign (forty years, 967 - 927 BC) and brings Israel to the most powerful and influential stage of its history,

Solomon is most recognized for his wisdom. After Solomon offers an elaborate sacrifice, God responds by appearing to him in a dream and offering whatever he wishes. Solomon answers by declaring himself inadequate for being kind and requests the gift that will best enable him to rule God’s people well.

“Now, LORD, my God, you have made me your servant, king to succeed David my father; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act - I, your servant, among the people you have chosen, a people so vast that it cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, a listening heart to judge your people and to distinguish between good and evil. For who is able to give judgment for this vast people of yours?” (1 Kings 3:7-9)

God is pleased that Solomon asks for the gift of wisdom before all other gifts - before power, prestige, and possessions. Solomon recognizes himself to be a limited and fallible human creature, totally dependent on God. So God gives Solomon wisdom and exceptional understanding and knowledge. Later tradition associates the wisdom writings with Solomon - the Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes, Proverbs, and the book of Wisdom. Giving glory to the nation, Solomon establishes Israel as center of learning and the arts, as well as international trade. Under Solomon, Israel reaches the peak of its expanse, its wealth, and its fame among the nations.

King Solomon’s most important accomplishment was the construction of the temple in Jerusalem (1 Kings 6-7) Although King David desired to honor God with a permanent dwelling, this work is carried out by his son. By building this magnificent house of worship, Solomon continues the concentration of Israel’s faith traditions that David has begun in the city of Jerusalem.

Because of the temple, the Promised Land is now the Holy Land, and the city of Jerusalem is now the holy city. Now the whole people are able to dwell with God at this place where God has chosen to dwell. The temple and its worship express Israel’s covenant relationship with God. It is the responsibility of the king to maintain the people in holiness. He must walk blamelessly before God, trusting in the LORD, observing the Torah, and honoring the covenant. Because in and through Israel, God has chosen to reveal himself to all the peoples of the earth.

COV FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild extends its sincere gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the beautiful floral displays at the front of the altar during Ordinary Time. We warmly invite others within our community to consider joining us in this meaningful effort.

Contributing to the altar flowers is a lovely way to commemorate special occasions such as anniversaries or birthdays, to honor a special intention, to create a memorial for a loved one, or simply to enhance the beauty of our worship space. For those who prefer, monetary donations are also gratefully accepted and will be used to purchase flowers and plants.

The Flower Guild is currently seeking donations to provide flowers for the following Sundays:
June 15, 22, 29 July 6, 13, 20, 27 August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

A sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex after Mass. If you have any questions or would like to participate, please feel free to contact Kari Lee at 732-690-7143 or email @ kari-lee-donovan@protonmail.com
Thank you for your continued support.

REGRETS

We regret to announce the death of parishioner Marilynne Cerullo from natural causes last week. Marilynne and husband Bob joined the parish in 2004. A graveside service occurred on Friday in our cemetery.
On another sad note, Lynne Richardson’s mother also died last week from natural causes. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Bob and Lynne and their respective families.

COMMISSIONING CEREMONY

In addition to the celebration of First Communion for our four youth, we commissioned our Extra Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion on Sunday. Pictures below is the event, which culminated the ministers’ training in this important ministry.



ASCENSION

The Ascension of the Lord is a holy day of obligation, which falls on Thursday, May 29th and we will celebrate the Ascension on Sunday June 1st at our 9am Mass.



FEAST OF THE VISITATION

The Feast of the Visitation occurs on Saturday, May 31st. We will celebrate Mass at 9am.

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a feast day in the Roman Catholic Church celebrated on May 31st, commemorating the visit of the Virgin Mary to her cousin Elizabeth, who was pregnant with St. John the Baptist. This event is described in the Gospel of Luke (1:39-45) and is a significant part of Catholic tradition, highlighting Mary’s humility, generosity, and willingness to serve.

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day has come to mean the beginning of summer, a time for picnics and barbecues, and a holiday to gather around the family. That happiness and freedom, however, is a product of the real cause for the holiday: the sacrifice made by men and women who have fought and died for the freedoms and liberties that Americans hold dear. Memorial Day is a time to remember that the American way of life is not cheap but rather has been purchased by the lives and blood of so many who have sacrificed for us to live free and happily now.



Andrew Reyes/Cayden Miller/Patrick Ambrose/Annabella Reyes

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Last Sunday we celebrated the First Communion of four of our youth. Full of boundless joy, we welcome them to a life of spiritual growth and pray for their continuous journey with Christ. Amen

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

Sun, May 25: Bible Readings (Day 145): 1 Kings 3; 2 Chronicles 4-5; Psalm 64
**Prayer Point: That God will strengthen and preserve our parish in his holy service*

Mon, May 26: Bible Readings (Day 146): 1 Kings 4; 2 Chronicles 6; Psalm 65
**Prayer Point: With thanks for those who visit the sick and homebound*


Tue, May 27: Bible Readings (Day 147): 1 Kings 5; 2 Chronicles 7-8; Psalm 66
**Prayer Point: With thanks for the abundance of food and shelter we are blessed to enjoy*

Wed, May 28: Bible Readings (Day 148): 1 Kings 6; 2 Chronicles 9; Psalm 4
**Prayer Point: That the authority of heaven guide the actions of those who govern on earth*

Thu, May 29: Bible Readings (Day 149): 1 Kings 7; Ecclesiastes 1-2; Psalm 5
**Prayer Point: With thanks for those who formed Pope Leo in Chicago*

Fri, May 30: Bible Readings (Day 150): 1 Kings 8; Ecclesiastes 3-5; Psalm 6
**Prayer Point: For an increase in vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life*


Sat, May 31: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Bible Readings (Day 151): 1 Kings 9; Ecclesiastes 6-7; Psalm 7
**Prayer Point: May our souls proclaim the greatness of the Lord*



KOC PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Pancake Breakfast, today. The menu will be pancakes, sausage, juice & coffee. Please stay after and enjoy breakfast and camaraderie with fellow parishioners.


Your generous donation helps support the efforts of the KOC & Our Parish.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

On behalf of all the mothers in our Parish, “Thank You” all for the beautiful flowers that were given to us on Mothers Day. We truly felt the special attention of appreciation.


You guys are appreciated and thank you for all you do for us at COV.





IN MEMORY OF OUR DECEASED VETERANS

The Knights of Columbus will honor all deceased veterans and in particular those interred or memorialized in the COV Cemetery at 9:30 am in the Cemetery on Monday, 26 May 2025. This brief, but poignant ceremony remembers those men and women who served the Armed Forces and reminds us of the freedoms we enjoy because of their dedication to duty and country.

All are welcome. Please join the Knights in paying tribute to our veterans.





Please pray for the following

In Memoriam:
Joe Edwards, Charles Alter, Marilynne Cerullo & Doris Ann Melanco

PARISHIONERS

Helen Lyons, 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, Tom Hawksworth, Linda Gray, Pat Reamy, Lynn Vajda.

FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Mike Graham, 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 Brusio 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.

FATHER JOHN BODDIE SCHOLARSHIP

Annually we solicit donations for the scholarship fund, designed to help parishioners with higher education and the parish itself with on-going adult education. The donations purchase an ad in our bulletin for one year.

Next week we will hand out donation request letters to parishioners. By mail we will solicit donations from local businesses and former donors unaffiliated with the parish.

Scholarships are available from the fund for high school seniors entering college, higher and post-graduate education, continuing education, and special adult education. If you have any questions or would like more information please contact the office.



RECESSIONAL, LAST VERSE:

Eternal Father, grant, we pray/To all Marines,
both night and day,
The courage, honor, strength, and skill/
their land to serve,
Thy law fulfill; Be Thou the shield forevermore/
From every peril to the Corps. Amen

OUR LADY OF THE BAY COUNCIL #210 OF MATHEWS/MIDDLESEX COUNTIES

**K of C is a not-for-profit organization whose principles are Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.*

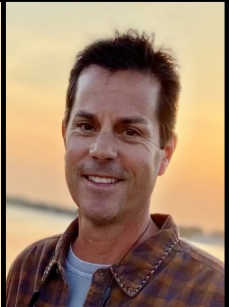
**Donations support: Gloucester, Mathews, Northern Neck & Middlesex Free Health Clinics (KOVAR) Virginians with intellectual disabilities, the VA Veterans Services- Golf Tournament, Families in need, Hands Across Middlesex & Mathews, and The Father John Boddie Scholarship Fund.*

**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

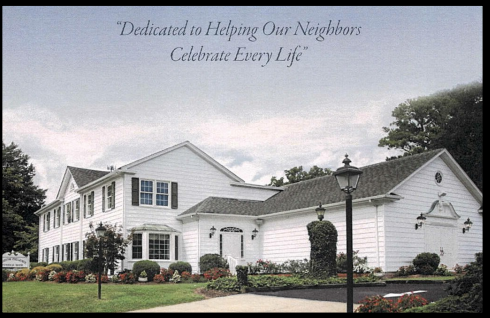
John & Pam
Strotmeyer



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.





*"Dedicated to Helping Our Neighbors
Celebrate Every Life"*

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**Helping Our Youth
Build Their Future**



Limerick II Enterprises
Construction Management Services

Tom Shoemaker
In Memory of JoAn



PRAYERS
MEMORIES


LOVE

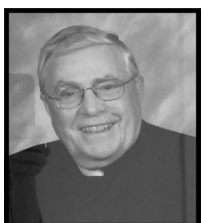

Jerry
McMurtrie

**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 our Father Bob Nash




In
Loving Memory
Of
Alma and Fritz Sitterding

Supporting Our Youth



*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
**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

Thanks for always
supporting us in
everything we do!

♥ Emily & Anna

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Clarence D. Jones, Prop.-

WE WISH OUR YOUTH
CLEAR SAILING

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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I
love
and
miss
you.
♥
Jim

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

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



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

We Support The Youth Scholarship
John & Carol McCormack

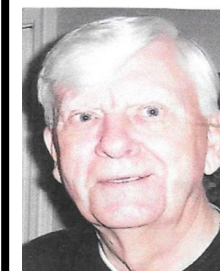


"I am the good shepherd...
and I will lay down my
life for the sheep."
(John 10:14)
John and Diane Weidner

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

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

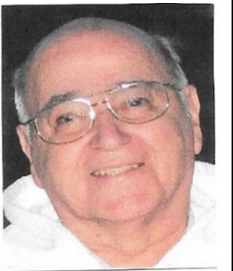
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F: 804.800.4593
NMLS# 1914115
cffc.com



Kenneth Anderson



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



Lewis Forte


In Loving Memory

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



NB NGUYEN | BALLATO
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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