

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



18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 3, 2025 Year C



Our Mass Intention Today is for Theresè Allen

Our mission is to prayerfully study, proclaim, and live the Word of God; celebrate the Eucharist; and serve the local community.

Our vision is to deepen our relationship with God through the grace of the Holy Spirit, grow in wisdom, care for each other, guide our children and families in their faith, and serve God as we build a lasting presence in our community.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Worship/Liturgy: Noelle Harvey
Justice & Peace: open
Religious Education: Linda 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 and 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 Creatures of Our God and King #537
“Loving and Forgiving” #653
Penitential Act: page 4
Lord Have Mercy #896 Glory To God #897
Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23
Responsorial Psalm: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.
Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-5,9-11
Gospel Acclamation: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Gospel: Luke 12:13-21 Homily: Father Koo
Nicene Creed: page 9
Prayers of the Faithful Response: Lord hear our prayer.

Liturgy of the Eucharist
Offertory: In Every Age #463
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: Gift of Finest Wheat #345
Meditation: Parable #677
Recessional: Though the Mountains May Fall #575

August Birthdays



1st-Carol Walsh & Ed Harriman; 3rd-Germaine Hayes & Rylin Savage; 4th-Nicole Kennedy; 5th-Patricia Paul; 6th-James Davenport; 7th-Joseph Kerrigan, Mary Merkin; 8th-Pat Marchant; 10th-Al Langer; 11th-Marysue Dougherty & Patrick Ambrose; 12th-Donna Thompson & Steve Kirsch & Thomas Kennedy; 13th-Mary Frere; 15th-Aldo DeCollibus; 17th-Kelly Saunders & Sommer Biederman; 19th-Dave Marcil & Monty McNeil & Bob Puleo; 21st-Roseanne Moncure; 24th-Richard Dougherty & Scott Wiley; 26th-John Matthews; 28th-Erin Godbout; 29th-Bill Puttmann; 31st-Mary Biederman

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

August Anniversaries

3rd-Charles & Margaret Hock; 7th-Charles & Anne Costello; 8th-Tom & Cindy Jessee; 10th-Charles & Lois Kramb; 17th-Sal & Lorie Messina; 18th-Mike & Gretchen Borzelleca; 19th-John & Carol McCormack; 25th-Bill & Michelle Puttmann, Michael & Angela Pycha;



UPCOMING EVENTS

Today-18th Sunday in Ordinary Time/McCormack Baptism
August 6th-Transfiguration of the Lord-COV @ 9am.
August 10th-19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 15th-The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
9:00am@COV/6:30pm@FdS
No Daily Masses August 20th & 21st

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

August 3, 2025

Sacristy: Delagrange Community Leader: Richardson
Altar Server: Ambrose, Smith Lectors: Dorman/DeGroot
Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Degroot
Chalice: Dreelin/Ambrose/Plunkert/Gray
Music: Mears Counters: O'Brien/Smith

August 10, 2025

Sacristy: Linden Community Leader: Clair
Altar Server: Kirsch Lectors: Dubicki/Petralia
Eucharistic Ministers: Hosts: Wolski
Chalice: Smith/Puleo/Dreelin/Marcil
Music: Filippi Counters: King/Angell

OFFERTORY COLLECTION from July 27, 2025

Collection: \$ 3,081
Second Collection \$
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 12,280
Total Budget Projection: \$ 13,244
Loan Balance: \$ 90,898

Our second collection today is for Debt Reduction.

We signed the following principal checks this week:
\$515 for banners ; \$215 for monthly telephone..



LEGACY GIFTS

A retirement account, such as an IRA, 401(k), or 403(b), often comprises a large portion of a person’s wealth. Yet, did you know they are the most heavily taxed—and a perfect instrument for making a charitable gift at death.

The way in which you distribute the assets can reflect your faith and values. By naming our Church as beneficiary of your retirement account, you can pass on assets you no longer can use, and spare your estate the tax burden affiliated with these plans.

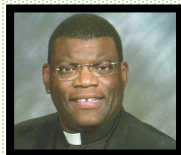


RECURRING EVENTS

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 9:00am; 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
Jack & Laurie King
Terry Skovera
Bill & Donna Plunkert
Norbert & Kathryn Bliley
Dan & Linda Peterson
Charles & Louise Hartz
Dave & Annette Marcil
Dave & Emily Filippi
Gene & Anne Wolski



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 2026

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

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Please register your children for Fatih Formation Classes (PreK through 8th grade) that will begin in September. The forms are located in the Narthex in the yellow box. Please take an envelope, fill out the form inside and return the form and envelope to the yellow box. I will collect the envelopes each week. Please register as soon as possible so we can order our resources.



FATHER JOHN BODDIE SCHOLARSHIP



Thank you to those who have sent in your donations to the Fr. John Boddie scholarship. So far we are at \$7,425. The envelopes are located in the Narthex, with the John Boddie poster. Please pick up your information when you leave church. If you have not purchased an ad and desire to support this worthy cause, there are envelopes available for you as well.

We thank you for all your continued support.

Any questions please call the office.

ADDRESS, PHONE AND EMAIL CHANGES

One advantage to the on-line directory is that all parishioner information can be kept current through periodic updates. In order to keep our COV online directory up-to-date, we request that you send any changes to your address, phone number or email address to the office at office@COVTopping.org.

Also, if you would like to access the online directory, but can't find your unique access code, please contact the office.

ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT

We trust you noticed the new green banners that represent Ordinary Time which the Environment Committee placed in the worship area last week to enhance the environment. We thank Roseanne Moncure, Cindy Jessee, and their crew for working diligently on this important aspect of liturgy and worship.

Last week we failed to thank Roseanne for donating the banners in addition to acquiring them. We certainly want her to know how much we appreciate her and all she does to make the worship area a beautiful place to pray.

BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL PAYMENT



As a Mission Parish, fifty percent of the funds that are collected from our parish during the Annual Bishop's Lenten Appeal are returned to us to meet the needs of our parish. This week the diocese provided us with an initial payment totaling \$7,590.

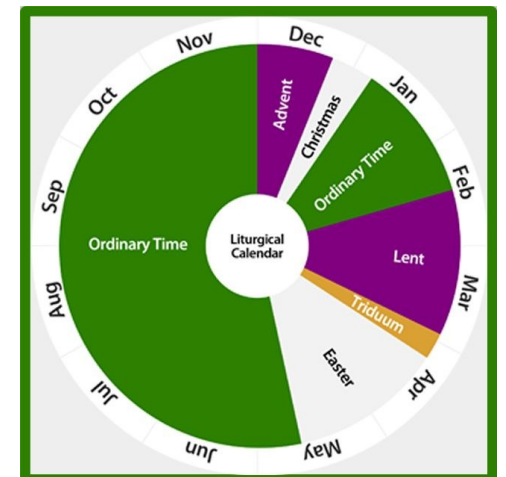
A second payment may be forthcoming later in the year if all pledges for installment payments are remitted.

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.



SOCIAL SUNDAY TODAY

Today is Social Sunday after Mass. We will also be celebrating Vincenzo McCormack's baptism. Please plan to stay and enjoy the opportunity for camaraderie, story-telling, and good food. Please bring a dish to share if you can.



Sunday, August 3, 2025

Journey Through the Bible: True Prophets and the Prophet's Call

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

The legitimacy of individual prophets is difficult to verify. Those who hear the prophets realize that there is no easy way of making distinctions between true and false prophets. So the principal means of authentication is the content of the message itself.

True prophecy calls people back to Israel's covenant with God. The authentic prophet is faithful to Israel's traditional faith. Another criterion for discerning true prophet is moral courage. A genuine prophet speaks out against injustice and unfaithfulness in the face of opposition and persecution. Legitimate prophets oppose unfaithful kings and they do not compromise the faith of Israel. A final quality of authentic prophets is their own subjective certainty about their call to prophecy. They are able to recount how God has called them to prophecy. With a deep inner certitude they know that God has called them to this task, despite their own reluctance.

The call of the prophet is a mysterious, often unwilling encounter with the living God. In describing his surprising vocation from God, Amos says, "The LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel'" (Amos 7:15)

Isaiah the prophet describes his own calling as a mystical experience, far deeper than anything that can be communicated through the senses. While in the smoke-filled temple of Jerusalem, he sees God on his throne, between the six-winged seraphim. Isaiah is filled with dread because of the wide breach between God's holiness and his own sinfulness. One of the seraphim touches Isaiah's mouth with an ember from the altar, removing his wickedness and purging his sin. "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?' 'Here I am,' I said; 'send me!'" (Isaiah 6:8)

The prophet Jeremiah hears God's voice say to him, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you" (Jeremiah 1:5) But Jeremiah tries to refuse God's call saying, "I do not know how to speak. I am too young." The Lord extends his hand and touches Jeremiah's mouth, and says: "See, I place my words in your mouth! Today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to uproot and tear down, to demolish and destroy, to build and to plant." (Jeremiah 1:9-10) Jeremiah realizes that there is no escaping God's call, describing God's word as a fire burning in his heart, imprisoned in his bones (Jeremiah 20:9)

This assurance of God's call gives each prophet a sense of conviction and certainty in speaking God's word, and this vocational assurance gives him confidence throughout his ministry of the supportive presence of God.

Journey Through the Bible Readings and Daily Prayer Points
Aug 3 through Aug 9, 2025

Sun, Aug 3: Bible Readings (Day 215): Isaiah 51-52; Ezekiel 12-13; Proverbs 12:21-24

Prayer Point: Help us to store up treasures not for ourselves but for what matters to God

Mon, Aug 4: Bible Readings (Day 216): Isaiah 53-54; Ezekiel 14-15; Proverbs 12:25-28

Prayer Point: Encourage and enlighten pastors and give them a love for those they serve

Tue, Aug 5: Bible Readings (Day 217): Isaiah 55-56; Ezekiel 16; Proverbs 13:1-4

Prayer Point: Help efforts to provide adequate health care for all, especially those with limited resources

Wed, Aug 6: The Transfiguration of the Lord

Bible Readings (Day 218): Isaiah 57-58; Ezekiel 17-18; Proverbs 13:5-8

Prayer Point: May we listen to the voice of your beloved Son in all things

Thu, Aug 7: Bible Readings (Day 219): Isaiah 59-60; Ezekiel 19; Proverbs 13:9-12

Prayer Point: Deepen in all people a sense of dignity and respect for all life at all times

Fri, Aug 8: Saint Dominic, Priest

Bible Readings (Day 220): Isaiah 61-62; Ezekiel 20; Proverbs 13:13-16

Prayer Point: Give all people who follow the teachings of St Dominic the grace to be examples of Christian living to all

Sat, Aug 9: Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), Virgin and Martyr

Bible Readings (Day 221): Isaiah 63-64; Ezekiel 21-22; Proverbs 13:17-20

Prayer Point: Bless all those who have suffered because of injustice and persecution



Please pray for the following

In Memoriam:

Tom Dundon, Arlene Toler, Janet Sheldon,
Ann Dunn, and Eleanor Alter



PARISHIONERS

Jim Crumley, Janine Jaboulay, Helen Lyons, Paul Dubicki, 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 Hawke, Linda Gray, Pat Reamy, Lynn Vajda.

FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Theresa, Susan Marcotte, 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

Ellen Johnson, Brenda Brizendine, Father Bob Brownell, Bobby Brizendine, Gay Ruff, Melanie Crittenden, Dave Gunn, Alex Brown, Jim Bruso Jr., Linda Cryer, Kathy Goynes, 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.

OUR BULLETIN HAS A NEW LOOK THIS WEEK

We changed the look of the bulletin this week by adding our Parish Mission and Vision statements to the cover. These were approved by the Parish Council at the July meeting, and were designed to lay out our goals and core values for all to see. They should be read and contemplated by parishioners each week as we worship, care for each other, and serve our community.

We hope that our new statements will inspire and motivate you, and we ask everyone to look for ways to incorporate these values into your daily prayer and ministerial activities.

Our Altar Flowers today are from

Anne Baltrusaitis

In memory of mother, grandmother,
and great-grandmother Ellen Eskridge Palumbo,
from her loving family.



The Church of the Visitation is proud to announce



Baptism of

Vincenzo Louis

McCormack

August 3, 2025

Proud Parents:

Michael & Gina McCormack

Proud Godparent's:

Tom & Kerry McCormack

John & Carol McCormack

MORNING PRAYERS IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

During Father's absence, we will be holding morning prayer sessions, including the assigned readings, at 9 am on the following Wednesdays and Thursdays.

All are welcome to attend.

- August 20 and 21
- August 27 and 28
- September 3 and 4

- September 10 and 11
- September 17 and 18
- September 24 and 25

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



Faulkner Funeral Homes
& Cremation Services

PO Box 228

Saluda, VA 23149

804-758-2315

bristowfaulkner@faulknerfuneralhcs.com

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.

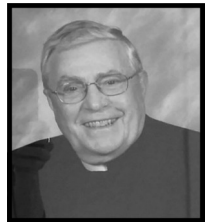
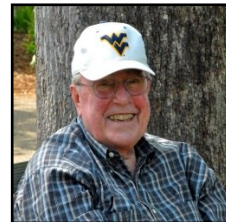
If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; be happy anyway.

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

Thanks for always
supporting us in
everything we do!

♥ Emily & Anna

In Loving Memory Of
Judith & Gerald Tully

The Puleo Family

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



Jason thanks for
showing us
everyday that it's a
Wonderful Life.
We sure do miss you
down here.
Germaine & Kevin
Hayes



I
love
and
miss
you.
Jim
♥

Frank & Gerrie Lohr
Supporting
Higher Education

In Memory of
Bob Hartman
My Love of My Life
Jenny

In loving
memory of
Marty
Hawksworth
Tom & Sharon



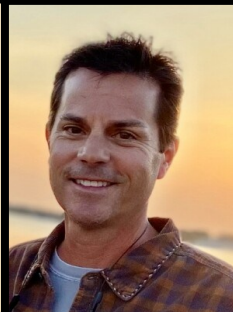
TO SUPPORT
OUR YOUTH,
THEIR DREAMS,
& OUR FUTURE.
Lynne & Gary Richardson

In Loving Memory of
Carmen and David
Brinkley

In Loving
Memory of
Morgan
Wells
Forever,
Marianne



In memory of
our son
Christian Strotmeyer
John & Pam
Strotmeyer



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

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 Loving Memory of
Bob and Catherine Borden
Fred and Betty Meister

"I will instruct you and teach you
the way to go; I will counsel you
with my eye on you."

Psalms 32:8

John and Diane Weidner

Helping Our Youth
Build Their Future



Limerick II Enterprises
Construction Management Services
Tom Shoemaker
In Memory of JoAn



In Loving Memory

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



In support of our
Future Leaders
"Our Youth"
The Kirsch Family

FOR OUR CHURCH KITTIES

Choco, Tabby & Rufus



We Support The Youth Scholarship
John & Carol McCormack



In Loving Memory of
"Pop, Lee & Vinnie"

We love and miss you!

Barb & Tori

BY THE BAY
STAINED GLASS

Al Langer 804-815-1328

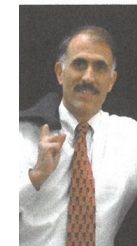


C. Ben Lennon, D.D.S.

Mathews Dentistry 804-725-9485
Deltaville Dentistry 804-776-9484

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Branch Manager

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