# Epiphany of the Gord

Come, let us adore Him.



### 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, Virginia 22015 nativityburke.org

REV. ROBERT C. CILINSKI, PASTOR

REV. EDWARD BRESNAHAN, PAROCHIAL VICAR

REV. JONATHAN BENNETT, PAROCHIAL VICAR

REV. CEDRIC P. WILSON, ASSISTING PRIEST/

SPANISH MINISTRY DEC. RICHARD F. KELLY

### SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

Adrienne Swidal, Parish Secretary Ann Benson, Business Manager Carlos Gutierrez, Facility Manager Cat Sands, Pastoral Minister Maureen Andersen, Liturgical Minister Johana Brown, Parish Receptionist Anna Marty, Receptionist/Baptism Coordinator Caroline Chase, Receptionist/Bulletin Editor Ayse Kenner, Mass Intentions Alison Fram, Director of Young Adult & Family Ministries/College Ministry Rebecca Judge, Director of Youth Ministry Mary Castellano, Director of Social Media Anna Lisa Licud, Coordinator Marriage Enrichment Carole Fischl, Co-director of Music Debbie Doyle, Co-director of Music Mai Tran, Traditional Choir Director Sara Prince, Youth Choir Director/Cornerstone Choir Natacha Hines, Gift Shop

### MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

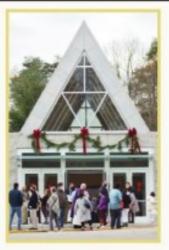
Maria Kelly, Principal Richard Godwin, Assistant Principal Jen Behan, Preschool Director/Extended Care Director Shannon Murphy, Administrative Assistant/Registrar Kim Vu, Business Manager Mary Helen Chapman, School Secretary

### MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Sister Donatella Merulla, A.R., M.R.E. Sister Mary Attilia Todaro, A.R., M.R.E. Maria Ammirati, Religious Education Coordinator Fania Jimenez, Administrative Assistant

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454-2415



PARISH OFFICE: (703) 455-2400 PARISH FAX: (703) 455-6832 NATIVITY SCHOOL: (703) 455-2300 NATIVITY FAX: (703) 569-8109 PRE-SCHOOL: (703) 455-2300 ext. 136 CCD OFFICE: (703) 455-0372 CCD OFFICE FAX: (703) 455-6832

SUNDAY MASSES: 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass 7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass in Spanish 7:00 a.m./9:00 a.m./11:00 a.m./

1:00 p.m./5:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES: 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday

12:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

9:00 a.m. on Saturday

HOLY DAY MASSES: As Announced

RECONCILIATION: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. on Saturday

or, if necessary, by appointment

BAPTISM: For more information and how to schedule a baptism, please visit our website: https://nativityburke.org/baptism/

MARRIAGE POLICY: Please contact the Church as soon as you are engaged, and at least six months prior to your wedding date.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Announcements for the bulletin must be submitted in writing by 9:00 AM on Tuesday (5 days prior to publication). Please note: this deadline can change due to holiday office closings. You may email submissions to bulletin@nativityburke.org.

### WEBMASTER:

Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

Mary Castellano, socialmedia@nativityburke.org

Assisted hearing devices are available from the Sacristy staff at all services

### A Message from our Pastor Fr. Bob Cilinski



"Then they opened their coffers and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."

~ Mt. 2:11

My dear parishioners,

Happy Epiphany Feast! Just as the Magi recognized the self-revelation of God in the Christ child and offered him their gifts, so this Sunday's feast allows each of us to respond to the mystery of the Incarnation and make it our own. Despite the fears and troubles of our world, "upon you the Lord shines, and over you appears his glory" (Isaiah).

The good news of salvation is now revealed to extend beyond Bethlehem to every nation. Perhaps this reminds us to look all around us for other divine Epiphanies. God continues to come to each of us, to all of us. In what ways is Nativity parish giving birth to the Savior every day? How is the Lord revealed in the various ministries of our parish? Name the surprising places you have found the Lord. Who in your life is like a star that leads you to the manger? What gifts do you produce from your coffers when you kneel in adoration before your King? How diligently are you searching for the Lord?

Those three Kings were wise. When they saw the new star indicating a new life, a new King, a new ruler, a new child, they followed faithfully despite the many risks.

Let us follow too, until we arrive. Love and Blessings,

Fr. Bul Cilindre

Fr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor



### APPALACHIA HOME BUILDING

On the weekend of January 20/21, the knights will be speaking at all Masses asking for help to build Nativity's 26th home in the heart of Appalachia. The goal will be to raise \$110,000, and because of Nativity's generosity throughout the year, we are already at over \$30,000 towards that goal.

Donations can be made either through electronic giving, mailing directly to the office at 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA, 22015, or through donations at the Mass on that weekend.

Please make checks out to Nativity Parish and annotate on your check that it is for the Appalachia Home Building project and include your envelope number for ease of posting to your account. Refer any questions to Bob Corsi, bobcorsi@cox.net.

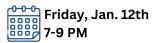


**Nativity Catholic Church** 

# BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

**OLIVIA TURNER** 

President, Virginia Society of Human Life





Nativity Cafeteria Speaker | Refreshments

# Join us in fellowship a week before the National *March for Life* as Nativity hosts renowned Pro-Life speaker Olivia Turner!

- A regular on national news and syndicated program
- Frequent witness before legislative bodies and a favorite on college campuses
- Traveled to over 17 countries and all 50 states to speak on post-abortion syndrome and pro-life issues

### Topics that Olivia will discuss:

- What happens now? Unraveling the damage of Roe v Wade
- Best ways to participate in building a true  $Culture\ of\ Life$
- $\,^{\circ}$  Facts about the impact of abortion on the health and well-being of women,
- the social damage done, and the way forward legislatively
- How to help heal the wounded from abortion
- How to respond to conversations and slogans with truth and compassion  $% \left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{ 1$

Sponsored by Nativity's Marriage Enrichment, Pro-Life, and Knights of Columbus, RSVP: alicud@nativityburke.org or text 571.208.2821

# Save the date for spending the day with us at the annual National March for Life (MFL) in Washington, D.C,

https://marchforlife.org/national-march-for-life/ This year it is set for Friday, January 19, 2024 with the theme of "With every woman, for every child."

### Agenda

10:00am - Nativity's MFL Mass begins

10:45am - Load the bus and depart for DC/National Mall

11:40am - Arrive at National Mall, depart bus, and take group photos while enjoying free live concert music

12:00pm - Rally begins on the National Mall with inspiring speeches and music

1:00pm - National March for Life begins. Starting between 12th and 14th Streets, we will peacefully march up Constitution Ave to the steps of the U.S. Capitol Building

3:00pm - Stop at St. Peter's Church for hot chocolate/coffee/snacks/restrooms

 $3\!:\!30\text{pm}$  - Assemble at Folgers Park, board bus and depart

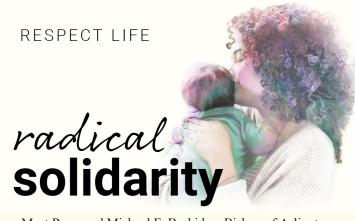
4:00pm - Return to Nativity

Nativity Church has generously secured for us one Deluxe Motor Coach seating 55 Passengers featuring High-back reclining individual seats, restroom, DVD player with monitor, and PA/sound system. To secure your seat on the free Nativity bus before it fills up, please scan the QR code or visit:

https://bit.ly/3TLtmEN to sign up.



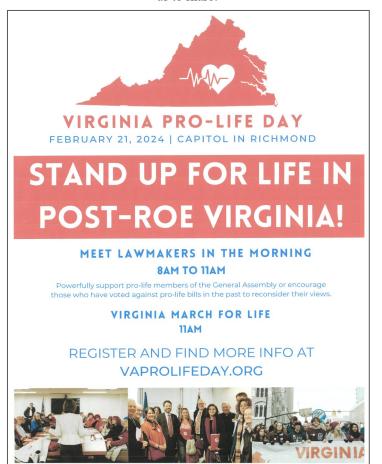
Please enter the name, email address, and cellphone number of each person in your party as a separate entry. Note: Minors under 18 need to be accompanied by a parent or a parent-approved adult. Questions: Contact RickLoffredo@outlook.com.



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington and Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, issued a statement for the first anniversary of the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization decision made by the Supreme Court of the United States. To read it please visit: https://www.usccb.org/prolife

"They fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." - Matthew 2:11

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!





### **After Abortion Care Volunteer Opportunities**

Please help support the diocesan after abortion care outreach through prayer and awareness. To learn more, please RSVP for a Project Rachel Zoom Call on Thursday, January 11 from 12:30-1:00pm by emailing Sarah LaPierre, Project Rachel director, at info@helpafterabortion.org.



### **National Eucharistic Revival**

Catholics all across the country are in the middle of a National Eucharistic Revival, an initiative of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops that aims to inspire, educate, and unite the faithful in a more intimate relationship with Jesus in the Eucharist, which is the source and summit of our Catholic Faith.

In the months to come, you will see and hear about more opportunities to deepen our faith in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, his Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity.

Scan the QR code from the banner in the Narthex to sign up for news about the National Eucharistic Congress planned in Indianapolis next summer, July 17–21, 2024. They expect 80,000 people to fill Lucas Oil Stadium with all the fans cheering for the same side, our Lord in the Eucharist!

Plus, there will be four routes of Eucharistic Pilgrimages that will make their way across the country and converge in Indianapolis! These pilgrims will accompany Jesus from city to city, lighting hearts on fire along the way. The route from the east, the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route, plans to pass by our nation's capital, blessing locals and tourists alike with his real Presence. All routes will meet in Indianapolis at the National Eucharistic Congress.

To find out how you can participate, go to https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/ and sign up for news from the National Eucharistic Revival.

### **Nativity Catholic Church**

Family Ministry

Have you been looking for a way to connect with Catholic families for community, encouragement, and growth? There are MANY families with young children at Nativity and in our ministry, "family" encompasses families in all shapes and sizes- married couples, single parents, adopted children, one child, multiple children, etc.









CALENDAR FO UPCOMING EVENTS

Interested in advertising in the bulletin? Call Mike Jurosky at 717-648-5996 or email: mjurosky@diocesan.com

### In Mary's Footsteps - A Group for Widows

Our next meeting of faith and fellowship will be January 8th at 11:00 am in the church training room. We are a group of women who strive to follow in our Blessed Mother's footsteps of strong faith and peace, as she did after St. Joseph passed. Monthly meetings, dinners out and other activities uplift us. Please feel free to join us. Further questions may be sent to Cat Sands at csands@nativityburke.org. God bless you!



MASS INTENTIONS
"We are God's People"
1 Peter 2:10

### Monday, January 8th

7:30 am † Javier O. Cueva Guzman

### Tuesday, January 9th

7:30 am Special Int. for Yolanda DiVirgilio

12:00 pm † Joseph Lane

### Wednesday, January 10th

7:30 am † Oscar Greak, Jr.

### Thursday, January 11th

7:30 am † Maria Grey Diaz 12:00 pm † Robert Fath

### Friday, January 12th

7:30 am † Kathleen McHugh 9:00 am † Ms. Nguyet Trieu

### Saturday, January 13th

9:00 am † Kamal Hanna 5:00 pm † Richard Dorwaldt 7:00 pm Parishioners

### Sunday, January 14th

7:00 am † Lucretia Rowley 9:00 am † Cara Abbruscato 11:00 am † Belen Brillantes Torrence

1:00 pm † Irene Lutkenhouse

5:30 pm Living & Deceased Members of O'Brien Fam

In prayer, let us remember the sick and deceased of the parish visit nativityburke.org for the Priest Mass Schedule

Pray for those who are discerning a call to proclaim the hope of the Resurrection as religious brothers, sisters, priests or deacons. If you feel God is offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at (703) 841-2514 or

email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

### **Annual Parish Offertory Commitment**

THANK YOU to all the parishioners who responded to our annual offertory renewal. Reflecting on God's goodness and the many blessings He has given us, a record number of parishioners submitted their pledges of support for the coming year. The new commitment began with the Advent season. Your donation enables the parish to continue our mission of bringing the community closer to Our Lord Jesus Christ through the sacraments, outreach and prayer.

May God continue to pour out His blessing on each one of us as we approach the New Year, filled with opportunities for gratitude and grace.







### **HAVEN of Northern Virginia Workshops**

Haven is a nonprofit, nonsectarian community organization of trained volunteers that offers emotional support to the bereaved, the seriously ill, the dying and to their families and friends. Haven also provides education to the community about the needs of those who are grieving. Since September 1976 Haven volunteers have helped individuals work through their grief, offering comfort and support by sharing insights, resources and techniques that encourage recovery and healing.

# Grief Support Groups Open Suicide Loss Support Group

This group, open to persons who have had a loved one die by suicide, is held twice monthly. Participants will be offered information and suggestions for handing the complexity of grief that often follows a suicide. To participate, call Haven at 703-941-7000. *The group meets on Saturdays*.

Four-Week Widow/Widower Bereavement Support Group (formerly six-weeks). The group is open to persons whose spouse or partner has died. This loss can be numbing and devastating. You may have feelings of sadness, loneliness and abandonment. No one can heal your pain, but this group will help you learn ways to cope with this difficult experience. Pre-registration is required and participants must be able to attend all sessions. Check our home page or call Haven for dates.

### Parent Loss Support Workshop

This group is open to anyone who has experienced the death of a parent. Coping with a loss like this is often a traumatic and painful experience. This group will provide participants with coping skills and give them an opportunity to share their experience with others who also are struggling to deal with the myriad facets of death. Check our home page: Haven of Northern Virginia Grief Support (havenofnova.org) or call Haven at for dates and further information. Pre-registration is required. Haven of Northern Virginia is located at 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale, Virginia 22003. Phone 703-941-7000 or email havenofnova@verizon.net



### ECHO Food Room Needed Items Collection THIS weekend

Choose sizes appropriate for an average family size of four. ECHO cannot give our clients food whose expiration date is past, open food, or repackaged food (no zip-loc bags). Last month we collected 1,405lbs! <a href="Items most needed:">Items most needed:</a>
Protein Items (e.g. can chicken, Spam, sardines, chili, beef stew) Spaghetti Sauce, Tea (green, herbal, black), Milk products (canned, shelf stable, hot chocolate), Macaroni and Cheese, Can Tomatoes, Healthy Snacks (nuts, raisins, dried fruit, granola bars etc.), Sugar, Masa (Corn) Flour, Box Potatoes, Lentils, Instant Coffee, Canned fruit, Bagged beans (black, red, or garbanzo), Bag Rice, Pancake Mix and Syrup, Crackers, Spices (garlic, onion, cinnamon, salt, pepper), Lemon/Lime Juice Juice (Bottles or Box), Honey, Cooking Oil, Tortillas, Muffin/Cornbread Mix, Brown paper bags, Reusable grocery bags.

HYGIENE PRODUCTS: Children's Toothbrushes, Laundry Detergent, Toilet Paper, Deodorant, Shampoo, Bath Soap, Dish Soap, Paper Towels, Diapers - Sizes 3, 4, 5, Sanitary Pads, Band Aids, Shaving Cream/Razors.

### Sick / Homebound Visits

Are you or someone you know sick and/or homebound for any reason? We can arrange home visits from the parish and provide prayer and the sacraments. We would love to bring God's Grace and Peace to anyone in difficult times.

Please contact Cat Sands, Pastoral Minister, at csands@nativityburke.org to schedule a visit.

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 7992 BASKETBALL FREE THROW CHALLENGE

This fun event will be held on Saturday, January 20, 2024, from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM in the Father Martin Center and is open to all boys and girls ages 9 - 14. Each contestant will be scored on 15 free throws taken from an age-designated foul line. Boy and girl winners for each age group will be determined by highest score.

In case of a tie, five additional tie-breaker free throws will be used to determine the winners. Participants can arrive any time between 6-9 PM and do not have to remain for the entire event. Participation time for each contestant is typically 15-20 mins. No early registration or notification is required. Contestants sign in upon arrival.

This is a community event so all are welcome regardless of parish affiliation. Bring friends and compete with each other! Group winners will be eligible to compete at the Knights of Columbus District Challenge in February at Holy Spirit in Annandale.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Batrla at jbat747@gmail.com.



IN HONOR OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK,
NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL IS HOSTING A SENIOR BINGO.
ALL SENIOR CITIZENS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US ON
MONDAY, JANUARY 29TH IN THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA.
10:00 AM STARTS MINGLE TIME WITH BINGO TIME
TO FOLLOW FROM 10:30 AM TO 11:30 AM.
LITE SNACKS AND DRINKS WILL BE SERVED.

PLEASE RSVP TO MRS. MCGUIRE AT 703-455-2300 EXT. 145.





## St. Lucy Winter Food Drive: Saturday, February 10th from 9:00AM-1:00PM

The next St. Lucy Winter Food Drive will take place from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday, 10 February to support Catholic Charities in its campaign against hunger in the Diocese. The St. Lucy truck will be parked at the rear of the church parking lot nearest Old Keene Mill Road (like in the Oct. drive). During that time, you can drive to the truck and our team will take any donations from your vehicle (please place your donations in your trunk for safe and easy removal). Catholic Charities also accepts monetary donations, especially grocery gift cards (Giant, Safeway, etc.); any donation is welcome! *Please make checks out to CCDA*, with "St. Lucy Project" in the memo line.

We can always use help with loading donations; if you'd like to volunteer, please sign up at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D49ADAE29A6FE3-stlucy1.

If you would like to help hand out the blue bags after Mass on 3-4 February, please sign up at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D49ADAE29A6FE3-stlucy#/

If you have questions, please email the St. Lucy Team at nativity.stlucyteam@gmail.com. Thank you and God bless you!

# WORKCAMP 2024 Registration Open!

JUNE 22-28 FREDERICK COUNTY, VA

Teens currently in grades 9-12 are invited to a week-long overnight camp providing them with an opportunity to encounter Christ through service, faith, and fellowship.

Applications for teens and adult volunteers are open now through January 15.

Contact: wc@nativityburke.org

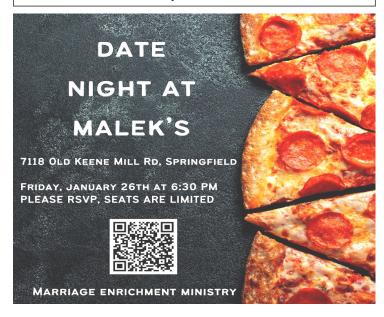




### Did you receive a Christmas gift that you will never use?

I would love to take it off your hands! I am collecting new items to use as prizes for Nativity's senior bingo on January 29th. Donations can be dropped off at the school office beginning January 3, 2024. For more information contact Mrs. McGuire at the school at 703-455-2300 ext. 145.

The next rosary ministry meeting will take place on Tuesday, 16 January from 1:00pm-3:00pm in the Father Ready room. Join us for our Bead Party! Please bring your extra beads and we will make colorful rosaries with the "extra" beads. Continue to pray the Rosary every day, Merry Christmas!



# YOUTH MINISTRY

### LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12

**DINNER - FELLOWSHIP - PRAYER & FORMATION** 

Sundays | 6:30-8:30pm

### HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUPS

GIRLS: Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00pm, weekly

<u>GUYS:</u> Thursdays, 7:00-8:30pm, 2x/month





### **EDGE: GRADES 6-8**

Alternating Sundays | 3:30-5:00pm & Fridays | 7:00-8:30 pm

### **EPIPHANY PARTY**

Join us for our first Youth Ministry gathering of the new year as we celebrate our annual Epiphany Party! Bring a wrapped gift under \$15 if you want to participate in the White Elephant gift exchange!

Edge 3:30-5:00pm Life Teen 6:30-8:30pm

### See website for full schedule

Before attending, please register for the 2023-2024 year of ministry using our free, online forms.

cym@nativityburke.org o @nativitycym



Do you need a ride to a medical appointment or to go grocery shopping and are unable to drive? The Shepherd's Center—Fairfax Burke provides these services. Feel free to contact the Shepherd's Center Fairfax Burke at 703-323-4788 for information.

### SCAM ALERT - PLEASE BEWARE

Persons using fake email addresses pretending to be Fr. Bob Cilinski and other parish staff members, have been requesting special favors and/or gift cards. Please note that Fr. Bob, or any of the other priests or parish staff members, DO NOT and will NEVER email, message, text or ask anyone

for any kind of financial assistance, special requests or favors. Please be careful and delete these kinds of emails or messages immediately. If you are unsure or have any questions, please call the parish office at 703-455-2400.



### NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



### Celebrating Christmas – Nativity-Style ~~

Our pageant, our classroom parties, our Polar Express movie, our visit from Santa – it was a wonderful way to take a brief respite from school, to continue celebrating the birth of our Lord at home with our families.





At Nativity, faith fills us. Love lives here. Nativity Stars are filled with the Holy Spirit!

### ~ Important Upcoming Dates ~

Friday, January 12 - Father/Father Figures' Breakfast Friday, January 12 - 12 NOON Dismissal Saturday, January 13 - Future City Competition Monday, January 15 - MLK Day - No School Friday, January 19 - March for Life Tuesday, January 23 - NWEA Testing Begins Thursday, January 25 - NWEA Testing Ends Sunday, January 28 - Catholic Schools Week Begins Monday, January 29 - Senior Bingo - 10 - 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, January 30 - Parent Breakfast - 8:15 - 10 a.m. Wednesday, January 31 - Vocations Talk, 6th - 8th

Join us at Nativity to see how your child would spend his/her days here - learning, praying, sharing, loving, and laughing. We may be just the school for which you've been searching!

Yes, Catholic education is worth the investment!

Nativity Catholic School is committed to making Catholic education accessible to those who desire it, and offers financial assistance to make their dream come true.

Contact Mrs. Shannon Murphy, our Registrar, for more information, at (703) 455-2300 and/or smurph@nativityschool.org.

# Love working with children? Want flexibility? Consider subbing at Nativity School... Please Join Us!

We are in need of substitute teachers with the following minimum qualifications:

- 2-plus years of college
- Ability to follow a lesson plan and give effective instructions in the absence of the teacher
- Proficiency in maintaining effective classroom management skills
- Diocesan-compliant and Successful background check Contact Mrs. Shannon Murphy, our Registrar, for more information, at (703)455-2300 and/or smurph@nativityschool.org.





Council Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tuesday. First meeting is a business meeting, the second meeting of the month is devoted to faith formation. Rosary 7:15 PM; meeting at 7:30 PM. Fellowship follows. Meet in the Nativity school cafeteria. Linktree Universal Sign-up Link: Volunteer for an event!

https://linktr.ee/fr sikora council 7992.

Scroll down to view all events.

Nativity Ushers assist at collections Volunteer for your Mass! Volunteer on Link Tree!

**7 Jan Young Family Epiphany Movie** Volunteer on Link Tree. **12 Jan "Building a Culture of Life" Pro-Life Talk,** 7-9pm, Cafeteria. Mark the date.

14 Jan Knights support Donut Sunday. Volunteer on Link Tree

19 Jan National March For Life. Mark the date.20 Jan Free Throw Contest - needs your support. Volunteer on Link Tree

27 Jan Adopt-a-Highway clean up. Volunteer on Link Tree. 3 & 4 Feb St. Lucy - Blue Bags Hand Out. Stand in Narthex after Mass and distribute food bags. Volunteer on Link Tree. 6 Feb Car Raffle Envelopes Stuff - Calling ALL Knights & families to volunteer, we need YOU! Stuff envelopes for the annual Car Raffle - Volunteer on Link Tree.

10 Feb St. Lucy Food Drive - Food Drop Off. Volunteer on Link Tree.

Food for Others: Volunteer drivers for food distribution to the poor. If you have a truck, SUV or van and can occasionally help deliver to 7 Corners on Thursday evenings or to Springfield on Friday evenings please consider helping. For Thursdays, please contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net. For Fridays, please contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock\_w@yahoo.com.

Name Tags: Email Vince Augelli at VaKC23@gmail.com. Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies: We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. Info on link-tree

**Handy Knights Ministry:** If you are unable to perform basic maintenance tasks or small repairs in your home due to health or other factors, call the "Handy Knights." Email handyknightsofnativity@gmail.com.

The Fraternal Committee: Brothers helping brothers in need of assistance: Brothers and the families of living and deceased brothers in need of a helping hand, contact Br. John Landy at navyy8@yahoo.com.

3rd Degree Knights - Grow with 4th Degree participate in patriotic activities that promote Catholic citizenship. 4th Degree Assembly meets the second Tuesday of the month in the Nativity school cafeteria: 7:30 pm rosary, 7:45 pm business meeting followed by fellowship. If you are interested, please contact our Faithful Navigator Vince Augelli at fn2996@vakofc.org.

Join the Knights! The Knights of Columbus is an international Corder of Cotholic mean who are called to lead with faith, material.

Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend values in a busy changing world. Join today! https://www.kofc.org/joinus.

FIAT fun with the #MediaNuns

# LIGHTS! CAMEIA. ACTION: FIATENTRY

Join the Daughters of St. Paul for an afternoon of media reflection, fun and prayer.

Sunday February 25, 1:00-5:00 p.m.

### More information & registration:

www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT or vocations@arlingtondiocese.org

Pauline Books & Media 1025 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

For high school girls interested in growing spiritually and exploring their vocation. Cost: \$15
Deadline to register:
Feb. 19

Sponsored by the Office of Vocations

ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT

703.841.2514

# Good News INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

# **Epiphany of the Lord**

### Sunday, January 7

Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2,7-8,10-13 Eph 3:2-3a,5-6 Mt 2:1-12

### Monday, January 8 Baptism of the Lord

Is 55:1-11 or 1 Jn 5:1-9 Is 12:2-3,4b-6 Mk 1:7-11

### Tuesday, January 9

1 Sm 1:9-20 1 Sm 2:1,4-8d Mk 1:21-28

### Wednesday, January 10

1 Sm 3:1-10,19-20 Ps 40:2,5,7-10 Mk 1:29-39

### Thursday, January 11

1 Sm 4:1-11 Ps 44:10-11,14-15,24-25 Mk 1:40-45

### Friday, January 12

1 Sm 8:4-7,10-22a Ps 89:16-19 Mk 2:1-12

### Saturday, January 13 1 Sm 9:1-4,17-19;10:1

Ps 21:2-7 Mk 2:13-17 The Season of Christmas ends with a celebration that focuses on the adoration of magi from the East who had sought and found Christ the newborn king.

The Greek word "magi" meant oriental scientists. Also called astrologers, their worship of Jesus does not validate astrology, which assigns power over us to stars and planets; rather, it validates that

Jesus was born to bring salvation to all, Gentiles as well as Jews. Their arrival at the manger demonstrates that Jesus was born for the sake of all who recognize that only God should have power over us. Jesus was born to free us from sin and all other forces that control us.

The magi also demonstrate that giftgiving is a normal part of worship. The gifts of the magi become gifts that we all give to Jesus: Gold represents our righteousness, which Christ's kingship over our lives makes possible so that we become more and more saintly each day. Incense represents our prayers going up to

God – prayers that involve giving God the gift of our trust. And myrrh is the gift of suffering for Christ: the sacrifices we make for the sake of his ongoing mission of transforming our world.

The word "epiphany" means a moment of discovery, a revelation that changes our lives. Did the magi have an epiphany about Jesus when they came into his presence? Did they realize that they were looking at the Savior of the world? Did they want this little baby to save them from their own sins?



We can safely assume that they never forgot about their trip to Bethlehem. Surely they kept their ears open for news about him as the years went by. Probably they heard about the King of the Jews who was crucified.

We know that they in fact became very saintly Christians; their relics still exist and have been venerated since very early times.

What about you and me? Will we remember Jesus in some new way this year? Will our worship of him transform us? Will the power of sin be defeated by our faith in Christ when we face temptations?

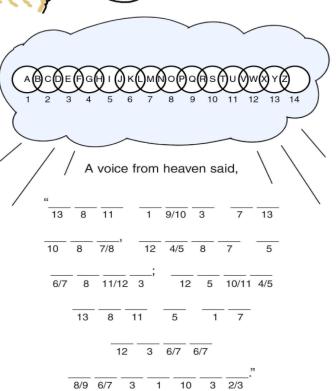
Hopefully, we have been changed this Advent and Christmas Season by a new rebirth of Jesus into our lives and – through our lives – out into the world.

### Reflect & Discuss:

- † What's the gold you're giving to Jesus? What is your incense? What is your myrrh?
- † Describe an epiphany you have had during this past Advent and the Season of Christmas.
- † How will you take this out to others so that they, too, experience Christ more completely?



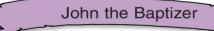
Find letters in the clouds below to fill in the blanks.



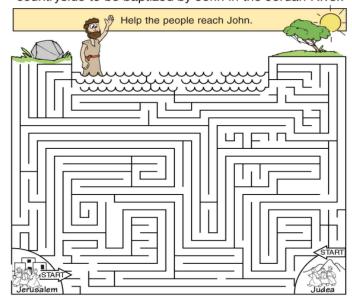


Ages 7+

January 7, 2024 • Mark 1:4-11



People came from Jerusalem and the Judean countryside to be baptized by John in the Jordan River.





Meet John the Baptist.

Fill in the blanks with the words from this list. The vowels are already in place. Read the poem with a rap rhythm.									
h_m_	s_nt	r_p_nts	w_rld	Ith_r					
g_v_	_n_m	I_c_sts	cl_th_s	prch_ng					
h_ly	d_s_rt	b_pt_z_	w_rds	w_ld_rn_ss					

My <u>n</u> a <u>m</u> e is John, and I'm a <u>o_</u> man.							
Gode me here to prepare the land							
for the coming of His Son into theo							
one day, and toai_e everyone who							
ee of their sinful way.							
I wearoe of camel's hair, a							
eae belt around my waist; I eat							
ou and wild honey; you're welcome							
to a taste. Thee_e is myo_e;							
in theiee I live.							
listen to myeai;							

Jesus came to John to be baptized in the Jordan River. When He came up out of the water, what happened?

Cross out every other letter, beginning with the one marked with the \*. Write the answer on the lines.

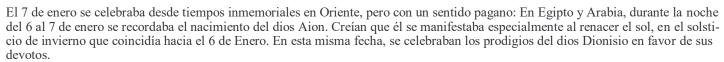
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### Fiesta de la Epifanía o Día de Reyes

Los pastores y reyes del Oriente visitan a Jesús el Mesias, le llevan regalos y lo adoran con oro, incienso y mirra.

Por: Tere Vallés | Fuente: Catholic.net

### Origen de la fiesta:



La fiesta de la Epifanía sustituyó a los cultos paganos de Oriente relacionados con el solsticio de invierno, celebrando ese día la manifestación de Jesús como Hijo de Dios a los sabios que vinieron de Oriente a adorarlo. La tradición pasó a Occidente a mediados del siglo IV, a través de lo que hoy es Francia.

La historia de los Reyes Magos se puede encontrar en Mateo 2, 1-12

"Después de haber nacido Jesús en Belén de Judea, en el tiempo del Rey Herodes, unos magos de Oriente se presentaron en Jerusalén diciendo: ¿dónde está el que ha nacido, el Rey de los Judíos? Porque hemos visto su estrella en el Oriente y venimos a adorarlo. Al oír esto, el Rey Herodes se puso muy preocupado; entonces llamó a unos señores que se llamaban Pontífices y Escribas (que eran los que conocían las escrituras) y les preguntó el lugar del nacimiento del Mesías, del Salvador que el pueblo judío esperaba hacia mucho tiempo.

Ellos contestaron: En Belén de Judá, pues así está escrito por el Profeta:

Y tú, Belén tierra de Judá de ningún modo eres la menor entre las principales ciudades de Judá porque de ti saldrá un jefe que será el pastor de mi pueblo Israel

Entonces Herodes, llamando aparte a los magos, los envió a la ciudad de Belén y les dijo: Vayan e infórmense muy bien sobre ese niño; y cuando lo encuentren, avísenme para que yo también vaya a adorarlo.

Los Reyes Magos se marcharon y la estrella que habían visto en el Oriente, iba delante de ellos hasta que fue a pararse sobre el lugar donde estaba el Niño. Al ver la estrella, sintieron una gran alegría.

Entraron en la casa y vieron al niño con María su madre. Se hincaron y lo adoraron. Abrieron sus tesoros y le ofrecieron regalos: oro, incienso y mirra. Luego, habiendo sido avisados en sueños que no volvieran a Herodes, (pues él quería buscar al Niño para matarlo), regresaron a su país por otro camino."

### Podemos aprovechar esta fiesta de la Iglesia para reflexionar en las enseñanzas que nos da este pasaje evangélico:

- \*Los magos representan a todos aquellos que buscan, sin cansarse, la luz de Dios, siguen sus señales y, cuando encuentran a Jesucristo, luz de los hombres, le ofrecen con alegría todo lo que tienen.
- \* La estrella anunció la venida de Jesús a todos los pueblos. Hoy en día, el Evangelio es lo que anuncia a todos los pueblos el mensaje de Jesús.
- \* Los Reyes Magos no eran judíos como José y María. Venían de otras tierras lejanas (de Oriente: Persia y Babilonia), siguiendo a la estrella que les llevaría a encontrar al Salvador del Mundo. Representan a todos los pueblos de la tierra que desde el paganismo han llegado al conocimiento del Evangelio.
- \* Los Reyes Magos dejaron su patria, casa, comodidades, familia, para adorar al Niño Dios. Perseveraron a pesar de las dificultades que se les presentaron. Era un camino largo, difícil, incómodo, cansado. El seguir a Dios implica sacrificio, pero cuando se trata de Dios cualquier esfuerzo y trabajo vale la pena.
- \* Los Reyes Magos tuvieron fe en Dios. Creyeron aunque no veían, aunque no entendían. Quizá ellos pensaban encontrar a Dios en un palacio, lleno de riquezas y no fue así, sino que lo encontraron en un pesebre y así lo adoraron y le entregaron sus regalos. Nos enseñan la importancia de estar siempre pendientes de los signos de Dios para reconocerlos.

Los Reyes Magos fueron generosos al ir a ver a Jesús, no llegaron con las manos vacías. Le llevaron: oro: que se les da a los reyes, ya que Jesús ha venido de parte de Dios, como rey del mundo, para traer la justicia y la paz a todos los pueblos;



La noche de los Reyes Magos Reflexiones Adviento y Navidad Noche mágica y misteriosa...¡Qué bonito sería pensar que esta noche todos duermen con esta espera maravillosa!

Por: Ma Esther De Ariño | Fuente: Catholic.net

Noche de Reyes...

Noche mágica y misteriosa...

Noche que hace palpitar aceleradamente los corazones infantiles y que al cerrar sus ojos para dormir, los hará soñar con la tierna ilusión de una muñeca o de un tren de bonitos colores. Porque a pesar de que ahora los juguetes han alcanzado perfecciones insospechadas y técnicas admirables, nada podrá igualar al maravilloso encanto y tierna sencillez de una muñeca "vestida de azul" o de un tren de alegres y vivos colores.

Sueñan los niños y porque sus almas son inocentes y tienen fe, encontrarán sobre sus zapatitos, que esta noche brillan de tan limpios que están, los juguetes anhelados... "porque se portaron bien" y escribieron una carta que siempre empezó así: *Queridos Reyes Magos....* y los mágicos personajes, Melchor, Gaspar y Baltasar, vendrán al conjuro de esos deseos ingenuos, con sus hermosas capas, con dos coronas y un turbante, para dejar sus regalos.

De tanto pensar en ellos, sienten los niños que en el silencio de esta noche han oído como un rumor de pasos, roce de sedas, terciopelos y brocados... Son los tres Reyes Magos que han pasado. Y ojalá que esos niños guarden para siempre la ilusión y magia de esta noche tan singularmente bella para que, cuando adultos, en sus nuevos hogares, siempre haya una "noche de Reyes". ¡Qué bonito sería pensar que esta noche todos los niños duermen con esta espera maravillosa!

Pero el cuadro tiene su claro-oscuro. Las sombras que nos estrujan el corazón de miles y miles de niños que esta noche no pondrán sus zapatitos porque no los tienen, porque sus pies caminan descalzos sobre la tierra de este Planeta. Que no pedirán ni un tren ni una muñeca sino un mendrugo de pan para tener algo que comer en esta noche de Reyes. Estos niños nos están gritando con el grito silencioso de su presencia, que de nada sirven los tecnicismos de esta era si a los hombres se nos ha endurecido el corazón. Pobre humanidad, envanecida y orgullosa...¡de qué podemos estarlo! si los hombres se matan y los niños tienen hambre.

Hacer a los niños felices sería el mejor regalo y más aún para nuestras conciencias. Que la mejor meta al llegar el año 2016 sería que no existiera un solo niño sobre la faz de la tierra, en la calle, con hambre y descalzo.

Será sin duda el mas severo juicio al que seremos sometidos ante el Creador, porque estuvieron a nuestro lado y no los quisimos ver, tuvieron hambre y no les dimos de comer, tuvieron sed y no les dimos de beber...

Esta noche, noche de Reyes, la humanidad entera y cada uno de nosotros, tendríamos que convertirnos en un Rey Mago, abrazar contra nuestro pecho a un chiquitín, besar sus mejillas sucias, sus ojos tristes y caer de rodillas y pedirles perdón.



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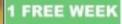




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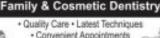
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