

# 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas" – which is translated Peter.

Jn. 1:42



**6400 Nativity Lane,  
Burke, Virginia 22015**  
**[nativityburke.org](http://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](mailto:bulletin@nativityburke.org).

**WEBMASTER:**  
Emilia Hartline, [webmaster@nativityburke.org](mailto:webmaster@nativityburke.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**  
Mary Castellano, [socialmedia@nativityburke.org](mailto:socialmedia@nativityburke.org)

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



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



*"Here I am. You called me."*

My dear parishioners,

This Sunday we enter "*Ordinary Time*." Christmas with its glitter and excitement is behind us and Lent followed by the glory of Easter is in the future. In this "*ordinary*" time we reflect on the everyday ministry of Jesus. God enters the ordinary moments of our lives and truly makes them extraordinary.

We are ordinary human beings, but something extraordinary happened when we were baptized. St. Paul describes this when he says that ordinary human beings are members of Christ; their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit!

We do not recognize Christ in the ordinary moments and ordinary people of our lives. John the Baptist almost missed God when He came calling. We do not hear the voice of God calling so we need to attune our ears and adjust our sights. When God calls we should respond, "*Here I am. You called me.*"

**John Henry Cardinal Newman gives us this reflection:**

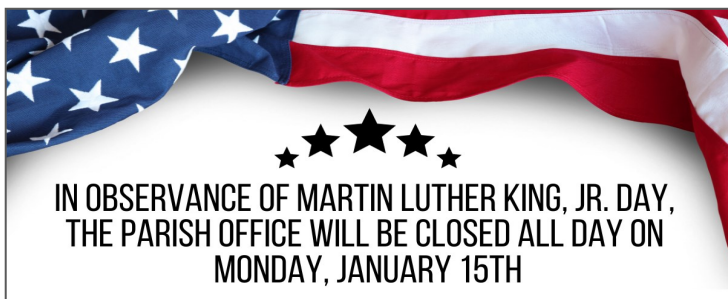
*God has created me to do him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next.*

*I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good. I shall do his work. I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place while not intending it – if I do but keep his commandments.*

*Therefore, I will trust him. Whatever, wherever I am. I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve him; in perplexity, my perplexity may serve him; if I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what he is about. He may take away my friends, he may throw me among strangers. He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide my future from me – still he knows what he is about.*

Love and Blessings,

*Fr. Bob Cilinski*  
Fr. Bob Cilinski,  
Pastor



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  
3:30pm - 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.

**VIRGINIA PRO-LIFE DAY**  
FEBRUARY 21, 2024 | CAPITOL IN RICHMOND

**STAND UP FOR LIFE IN  
POST-ROE VIRGINIA!**

**MEET LAWMAKERS IN THE MORNING**  
8AM TO 11AM

Powerfully support pro-life members of the General Assembly or encourage those who have voted against pro-life bills in the past to reconsider their views.

**VIRGINIA MARCH FOR LIFE**  
11AM

REGISTER AND FIND MORE INFO AT  
[VAPROLIFEDAY.ORG](http://VAPROLIFEDAY.ORG)



## APPALACHIA HOME BUILDING SPECIAL COLLECTION - JANUARY 20/21

On the weekend of January 20/21, the Knights will be speaking at all the Masses asking for your help to continue their home building effort in one of the poorest counties in our country. For the last 23 years, the Nativity Knights and Nativity Parish have partnered with the Appalachian Construction Crew operating out of Bellevue, Nebraska, to build one or two homes in McCreary County, Kentucky, which is rated as one of the top counties in this country for income below the poverty level. Throughout the year both crews raise money to offset the cost of approximately \$100,000 to build the home. Last year, costs continued to rise because of inflation and the three-bedroom home cost \$107,000. With the generosity of Nativity Parish, Nativity has raised over \$100,000 in past collections and is the main funding source for the annual home building effort. Without Nativity's support, the home building effort would have ceased in 2005. Last year, the combined crews built a home for the Creekmore family. The family had a total income of approximately \$26,000 and the family of three lived in a rundown trailer with significant mold and electrical issues. We are trying to exceed our past collection efforts to reach \$110,000, but we can't do it without your help. This will be the 26th home built by Nativity and the Knights.

This year Good Shepherd Chapel in Whitley City selected the Perry family of two to receive the next home. The family lives with grandparents for child support while the father works. The new home will be built on a lot next to the grandparents. The family's total income is \$21,000. Over a very compressed two weeks in June, the combined crews will build a 1,100SF, three-bedroom home, complete with porches, heating/AC, appliances, and a septic system -- the family assists if they are able. A handyman prepares the foundation and because of county requirements, we must hire local electricians, HVAC specialists, and plumbers who work side-by-side with our crews to complete the home which has significantly added to our costs. Nativity will again provide new complete beds for all the family members.

Please help if you can, but above all pray that we may be able to continue this important mission! The Knights will be collecting at all the church exits after all the Masses - **checks may be made payable to Nativity Catholic Church but annotate Appalachia Home Building on the check and your church envelope number to facilitate posting to your account.** Please consider electronic giving if at all possible; Appalachia Home Building is one of the designated charities. If you would like to mail your contribution, please send it to Nativity Catholic Church, 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA 22015. Please contact Bob Corsi if you have any questions by emailing him at bobcorsi@cox.net. PLEASE HELP US!



Happy New Year Nativity from your Creation Care Ministry! We would like to extend an invitation to you to join our ministry for one or many activities this year! To learn more, please RSVP

to nativitycreationcare@gmail.com for our next meeting on Thursday Jan 25 for a 7:00-8:15 pm ZOOM. Here are some of Creation Care Ministry's planned activities for 2024:

- Diocesan Care for Creation Network meeting sponsorship on January 16
- Ongoing collaboration with Commissioned by Christ on the Laudato Si 7 Goals Faith Journey
- Lenten Soup supper sponsorship on February 28
- St. Kateri gardens expansion and maintenance on the Nativity campus
- St. Fiacre vegetable gardens with donations to needy individuals and organizations
- WorkCamp collaboration - WorkCamp service day organization and sponsorship
- Nativity Yard Sale—collaborate with recycling/removal of leftover items to useful homes
- Camp on the Edge assistance
- Marriage Ministry collaboration - Heroes Hike
- Parish Festival waste/recycling management, Celebration of Trees, Raptor show
- Eagle Scout project sponsorship for environmentally related projects
- Medicine Bottle donation project to Matthew's Ministries
- Annual Fair Trade Market over Thanksgiving weekend

Your interest, ideas, and assistance are welcome! Please be in touch for more details, to join our email list or to attend a meeting or activity. Kim and George Young:  
nativitycreationcare@gmail.com.

## NO HANDS BUT YOURS MINISTRY

AN ORIGINAL NATIVITY MINISTRY DOING GOD'S WORK  
BY SERVING THOSE LESS FORTUNATE MEMBERS OF HIS FLOCK.  
WE WORK DISTRIBUTING FOOD, CLOTHING, AND PERSONAL ITEMS  
TO THE POOR AND HOMELESS IN D.C. AND NORTHERN VIRGINIA  
EVERY SUNDAY MORNING, RAIN OR SHINE.  
FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT THE NATIVITY PARISH WEBSITE  
OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN DAILY/SUNDAY  
RUNS, PLEASE CONTACT JOHN RUBINO AT:  
JOHN.ALBERT.RUBINO@GMAIL.COM.



**Vocations Event: High Tea and Hildegard**  
**Sunday, January 21, 2024 – 2-4 PM**  
**Benedictine Sisters of Virginia**  
**9535 Linton Hall Road**  
**Bristow, VA 20136**

Pray, Eat, Learn, Enjoy. We welcome single women ages 21-55.  
RSVP to Sister Kathy at vocations@osbva.org.

Sister Dolores is our guest speaker for the High Tea. We will experience her love for this Benedictine Saint Hildegard as we enjoy our tea with the Benedictine Sisters of Virginia.



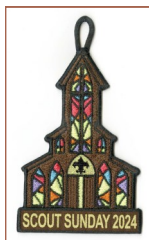
RESPECT LIFE



## radical solidarity

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>

### SCOUT SUNDAY & PANCAKE BREAKFAST FEBRUARY 4th



Nativity Scout Sunday will be celebrated on February 4th at the 9:00am Mass. All Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, American Heritage Girls, Trail Life, and Camp Fire Youth from the Parish are invited to participate. Please have your scout report in full uniform to the Fr. Ready Room (between the Church and the School) by 8:40am that morning to line up for the processional.

Units are invited to bring their flags with stands. Scouts will be seated with their leaders by program level. All of the Scouts will receive commemorative patches for participating. Please contact your scout leaders or Kevin Laden at 703-439-0225 for more information.

In addition, following the 9:00am Mass, Troop 1100 and the Knights of Columbus will host a special Pancake Breakfast in the cafeteria for just \$5/person or \$20/family. All are encouraged to participate!

**PLEASE NOTE: this week's School Mass on Friday, January 19th, has been moved from 9:00am to 8:30am to accommodate for the Mass for Life at 10:00am**

### 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](mailto:smurph@nativityschool.org).



## nativity stars GALA and Auction

### SAVE THE DATE!

Get ready to dance through the decades.

Come dressed in your favorite decade from the 50s-80s.

April 27, 2024

Nativity School, Fr. Martin Center

6:30 - 10:30 pm

21+ Event

Food • Open Bar • Music & Dancing • Costume Contest  
Photo Booth • Live & Silent Auction  
Class Basket Raffle • 50/50 Raffle • Heads or Tails



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.

### NATIVITY ITALIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURAL SOCIETY

Happy New Year! The Nativity Italian Heritage and Cultural Society has lots of informative and fun programs planned for the 2024 season. All are welcome to join as members or attend as guests. You don't even have to be Italian, just enjoy the spirit of Italian culture.

This month, we'll learn the history of Italian immigration in the Washington, D.C. area. Immigration attorney Francesco Isgro will give us insight into why Italians settled in our area and where they are today.

Many Italians came to this country as stonecutters who helped build our country's landmarks. We'll learn about their various accomplishments and national influence.

As always, a social hour follows. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share, if you can. Join as a member or come as a guest for a \$5 fee.

**DATE: THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, AT 7:00PM**

**PLACE: NATIVITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA**



### National Eucharistic Revival

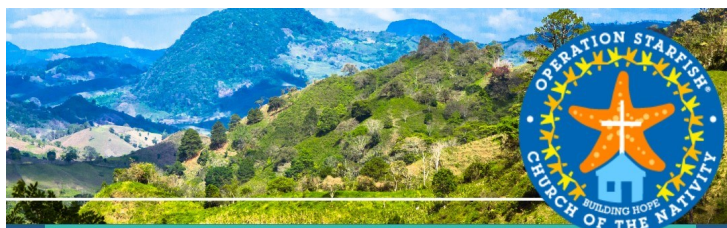
Catholics all across the country are in the middle of a National Eucharistic Revival, an initiative of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops that aims to inspire, educate, and unite the faithful in a more intimate relationship with Jesus in the Eucharist, which is the source and summit of our Catholic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



## HONDURAS MISSION TRIP

**JULY 8-12, 2024**

In partnership with  
**Operation Starfish**

If you're **college-age or a young adult**, contact Alison Fram to express your interest in coming with us!

Our mission is to visit **Honduras** and see our newest partnership with **Operation Starfish**.



[afram@nativityburke.org](mailto:afram@nativityburke.org)

### MASS AND HEALING PRAYER SERVICE

On Tuesday, January 23 a Mass and Healing Prayer Service is scheduled for 7:30 pm at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 7600 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, Virginia. Fr. John Melmer of St. John the Beloved Church of McLean will celebrate. Confessions will be available. This liturgy comes through the diocesan Catholic Healing Ministry.



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

#### Monday, January 15th

7:30 am † Karol & Catherine Golinowski

#### Tuesday, January 16th

7:30 am † Joseph Lane

12:00 pm † Jean & Milton Depew

#### Wednesday, January 17th

7:30 am † Edward Cilinski

3:00 pm † Theda Marty (*Burke Healthcare*)

#### Thursday, January 18th

7:30 am † John Scoree

12:00 pm † Richard Ferraro

#### Friday, January 19th

7:30 am † James Lynch

8:30 am † Thomas Bdzil (*School Mass*)

#### 10:00 March For Life Mass

#### Saturday, January 20th

9:00 am † Catherine & Richard Gallagher

5:00 pm † Richard Dorwaldt

7:00 pm † Maria del Rosario Ceberg

#### Sunday, January 21st

7:00 am Parishioners

9:00 am † Juanita & Gene DePalma

11:00 am † Bob Fram

1:00 pm Special Int. for Lis Kasyanto

5:30 pm † Nathan Andrew Julich

In prayer, let us remember  
the sick and deceased of the parish  
visit [nativityburke.org](http://nativityburke.org) for the Priest Mass Schedule

### Mornings of Mercy

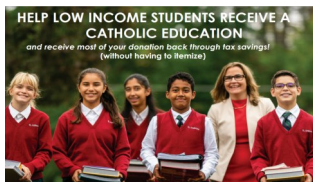
Join other members of the Diocese who have gone through divorce in a series of morning retreats. The morning will include Holy Mass, talk, and Benediction. Mornings of Mercy retreats are led by Rev. Thomas P. Ferguson, Pastor, Good Shepherd Catholic Church. The retreats are free. The next retreat is Saturday, February 3 at 9:00 am at St. Luke Catholic Church in McLean. Please register at [arlingtondiocese.org/morningsofmercy](http://arlingtondiocese.org/morningsofmercy)

### 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.





### Diocese of Arlington Scholarship Foundation

*Help low income students receive a Catholic Education and receive most of your donation back through tax savings! (without having to itemize)*

The Virginia Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credit Program will award a 65% state tax credit for donations made to the Diocese of Arlington Scholarship Foundation, (DASF), which provide scholarships for low-income students new to our diocesan Catholic Schools. You do not have to itemize in order to use the 65% tax credit! Donations must be preauthorized in advance. Please call Jeanne Combos at 703-841-2764 (or email [DASF@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:DASF@arlingtondiocese.org)), or go online for more details and to download the preauthorization request form at: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/Scholarship-Foundation/>

### ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Book for 2024 is open. This is a thoughtful way to honor a loved one, living or deceased. If you are interested, please stop by the parish office to sign up. You can now also go online and reserve flowers on our website at: <https://nativityburke.org/altar-flowers/>.

## 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](mailto:jbat747@gmail.com).

## NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL SENIOR BINGO

MONDAY, 29 JANUARY 2024

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](mailto:nativity.stlucyteam@gmail.com). Thank you and God bless you!



# A Letter from our sisters



*Dear Beloved Parishioners,*

*Warm greetings to each and every one of you. We hope this message finds you well, surrounded by the grace of love and kindness.*

*We extend our heartfelt gratitude to every generous soul who has contributed to our fundraising efforts. Your selfless donations have been a beacon of support, lighting the path toward our shared goals.*

*While we have not quite reached our intended goal yet, your kindness is not only seen in the financial contributions but also felt in the strength of our community bond.*

*In the spirit of unity and shared purpose, we are extending our Advent Project hoping we can meet our goal. Your continued assistance means the world to us, and together, we can make a significant impact.*

*Let us continue this journey hand in hand as we strive to meet our goal. Your love and generosity inspire us all, and we are truly blessed to have such a compassionate community.*

*Thank you, from the depths of our hearts, for your continued support. May the spirit of unity and kindness guide us towards achieving our shared aspirations.*

*With love and gratitude,  
Sister Donatella and Sister Mary Attilia*

**[handmaidsofpreparation.org](http://handmaidsofpreparation.org)**





**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

**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.

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!

**DATE  
NIGHT AT  
MALEK'S**

7118 OLD KEENE MILL RD, SPRINGFIELD

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26TH AT 6:30 PM  
PLEASE RSVP, SEATS ARE LIMITED



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT MINISTRY

**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

GUYS: Mondays, 7:00-8:30pm,  
2x/month

**EDGE: GRADES 6-8**

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

**WORKCAMP APPLICATION OPEN**

All teens currently in grades 9-12 are invited to join us at WorkCamp, a transformational week of service and Christian community! We are in need of adult volunteers to serve in a variety of roles. Check out our website for more details. Registration deadline is January 15.



See website for full schedule

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

✉ cym@nativityburke.org    📷 @nativitycym

**DONUT  
SUNDAY**  
THIS WEEKEND

**Join the Knights!**

Do you want to make a difference as a Catholic Gentleman? Then join the Knights of Columbus! Visit <https://info.kofc.org/us.html> and enter our council #7992 for local information and to register.





**NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

[nativityschool.org](http://nativityschool.org)



**Join Us ~ OPEN HOUSE ~**

**During Catholic Schools Week**

**~ Right After 9:00 am Mass ~**

**Sunday, January 28 \* 10:00 am - 12:00 NOON**

**We Have a Seat for Your Child ~**

**For details, contact Shannon Murphy at**

**(703) 455-2300, or [smurph@nativityschool.org](mailto:smurph@nativityschool.org).**

\*\*\*\*\*

**~ Let's Celebrate ~ Catholic Schools!**

We are back from Christmas Break and preparing for our annual celebration of Catholic Schools Week, beginning Sunday, January 28, 2024, with a School Mass at 9 a.m., and a School OPEN HOUSE at 10 a.m. A week packed full of events will follow for folks of all ages, i.e., Senior Bingo and a Middle School Spelling Bee on Monday; a School Parent Breakfast with the Pastor & Principal on Tuesday; a Teacher Luncheon and a Vocations talk for students with our Religious Team on Wednesday; an assembly hosted by our Military & Emergency Personnel parents on Thursday and, on Friday, we prepare Mass, enjoy a free lunch and – the ever-popular – dress down day! Join us at Nativity to see how your child would spend his or her days here -- learning, praying, sharing, loving, and laughing.

\*\*\*\*\*

At Nativity, faith fills us. Love lives here.

Nativity Stars are filled with the Holy Spirit!

\*\*\*\*\*

**~ Important Upcoming Dates ~**

\*\*\*\*\*

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](mailto:smurph@nativityschool.org).



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



**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!

Scroll down to view all events.

[https://linktr.ee/fr\\_sikora\\_council\\_7992](https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992).

**Nativity Ushers assist at collections**, Volunteer for your Mass! 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**, Nativity Bus seat reservation - Sign-up on Link Tree.

**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 [sawyermark7992@verizon.net](mailto:sawyermark7992@verizon.net).

For Fridays, please contact Br. Matt Stockburger at [mstock\\_w@yahoo.com](mailto:mstock_w@yahoo.com).

**Name Tags:** Email Vince Augelli at [VaKC23@gmail.com](mailto: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 [handyknights@nativity@gmail.com](mailto:handyknights@nativity@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](mailto: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](mailto:fn2996@vakofc.org).

**Join the Knights!** The Knights of Columbus is an international 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>.

**"Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them,  
"What are you looking for?" - John 1:38**

When we recognize who we are, it's easier to find what we are looking for. Once we see ourselves, and others, as children of God, we spend less time looking for the material comforts of the world. Instead, our hearts long for something deeper that can only be filled by God. Ask God daily how He wants you to live the life He intended for you.



### Family Bingo Night

The St. Mary of Sorrows Council 8600 Knights of Columbus will hold a Bingo to support TEACH, a non-profit organization that actively responds to the schooling needs of underserved children in Maya communities in Guatemala.

The Bingo will be held at St. Mary of Sorrows, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax 22032 on Saturday, February 3, 2024 from 6:30 – 8:30PM. Costs: \$10 for 2 cards. Chili, Hot Dogs and Bake Sale. Everyone is invited to come and play and win some great prizes. Questions? Email Don Gantz at [dgantz@gmu.edu](mailto:dgantz@gmu.edu).

**Support Our Seminarians  
Help Build the Future of Our Diocese  
Make Your Gift Today!**



Mail your check made out to:  
**Foundation for CDA-SEEF**  
200 N. Glebe Rd., Suite 811  
Arlington, VA 22203

**CONTACT:** John French • [john.french@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:john.french@arlingtondiocese.org)

To make a gift online:  
[https://arlingtondiocese.org/Donate\\_SEEF](https://arlingtondiocese.org/Donate_SEEF)

### Struggling with addiction in the family?

Both the afflicted and affected don't need to be alone. There are many resources available including AA, NA, Alanon, Calix and a diocesan chaplain. Call the HELPLINE (970) 989-2670 for support. This is NOT LIMITED to addicts, anybody that would like to speak with a priest or a friend in Christ May call!

*Subscribe to the*  
**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT  
MINISTRY**

**MONTHLY FLOCKNOTE**



Ana Lisa  
Marriage Enrichment Ministry Coordinator  
[marriage@nativityburke.org](mailto:marriage@nativityburke.org)

## MORNINGS OF Mercy FOR DIVORCED CATHOLICS

HOLY MASS | TALK | BENEDICTION

Hurting after divorce? Want to enter into fellowship with Catholics in similar situations and to grow more deeply in your relationship with Jesus?

Event is free, but please register  
**ARLINGTONDIOCESE.ORG/MORNINGS OF MERCY**

FEBRUARY 3  
ST. LUKE  
MCLEAN, VA

MAY 18  
ST. TIMOTHY  
CHANTILLY, VA

AUGUST 10  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
ALEXANDRIA, VA

NOVEMBER 23  
ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON  
LAKE RIDGE, VA

*Laugh the night away with friends and family*

## COMEDY NIGHT with JEFF ALLEN



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24  
7:30 p.m.**

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

St. Paul VI Catholic High School  
42341 Braddock Rd., Chantilly, VA 20152  
*Proceeds go to the Fund for Paul VI*





2024 CATHOLIC CHARITIES BALL  
CELEBRATION FOR YOUNG ADULTS

**MINGLE & MIX  
AT THE RITZ**

**FRIDAY  
FEBRUARY 2, 2024  
8:30 PM - 12:30 AM  
THE RITZ CARLTON ~ TYSONS CORNER**

**BUY TICKETS HERE BY JAN. 26**







# Volunteers Needed

## ST. MARTIN DE PORRES SENIOR CENTER

It is never too late to start a new years resolution; become a volunteer at St. Martin de Porres Senior Center to get a chance to give back to the community and do something new! St Martin de Porres Senior Center, operated by Catholic Charities, provides a variety of services to prevent isolation of seniors and promote their wellness, happiness, and independence. The senior center is a multicultural community, with over 20 countries represented. St. Martin's provides congregate meals, health screenings, exercises, educational presentations, and numerous activities. *Volunteers are needed to serve meals, give presentations, help with activities, teach computer and tech classes, and much more!*

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

- ACTIVITY LEADERS
- EXERCISE INSTRUCTORS
- SERVING MEALS
- RECEPTIONIST
- ARTS AND CRAFTS INSTRUCTORS
- COMPUTER AND TECH INSTRUCTORS

Center Hours are  
Monday - Friday  
9:30 am - 1:30 pm

Flexible schedules based on availability

### Location:

**4650 Taney Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22304**

**SIGN UP HERE!!!**  
<http://bit.ly/SMDPVOL>

or SCAN this code



## CONTACT

ST. MARTIN DE PORRES  
Maria.Mellor@ccda.net  
(703) 751-2766



CatholicCharitiesArlington



@CCDArlington



@CatholicCharitiescda







# 2024 *Embrace* Advocacy Awards Gala



## NOMINATIONS OPEN

Porto Charities believes that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities deserve to reach their full potential by receiving an enriching Catholic education and securing meaningful employment.

**Please nominate individuals who are making true inclusion and belonging possible. The winners will be recognized on April 20, 2024 at the Embrace Advocacy Awards Gala at Bishop Ireton High School.**

**Educator:** Is there an educator who has made a difference in your child's life?

**Employer:** Has your parish or school made a decision to hire an individual with a disability?

**School:** Has your school gone above and beyond to serve and include individuals with disabilities?

**Peer Mentor:** Do you know a peer mentor who is making school socially and academically accessible?

The nominees must be living and working in the Diocese of Arlington. Nominations are open through **February 9th**. Scan the QR code above or visit [www.portocharities.org/nominations](http://www.portocharities.org/nominations)



# Good News

## INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

#### Sunday, January 14

1 Sm 3:3b-10,19  
Ps 40:2,4,7-10  
1 Cor 6:13c-15a,17-20  
Jn 1:35-42

#### Monday, January 15

1 Sm 15:16-23  
Ps 50:8-9,16b-17,21,23  
Mk 2:18-22

#### Tuesday, January 16

1 Sm 16:1-13  
Ps 89:20-22,27-28  
Mk 2:23-28

#### Wednesday, January 17

**St. Anthony, Abbot**  
1 Sm 17:32-33,37,40-51  
Ps 144:1b,2,9-10  
Mk 3:1-6

#### Thursday, January 18

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7  
Ps 56:2-3,9-13  
Mk 3:7-12

#### Friday, January 19

1 Sm 24:3-21  
Ps 57:2-4,6,11  
Mk 3:13-19

#### Saturday, January 20

2 Sm 1:1-4,11-12,19,23-27  
Ps 80:2-3,5-7  
Mk 3:20-21

response to God's invitation. We proclaim it in the Responsorial: "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will."

Peter was privileged to witness first-hand the wondrous miracles of Jesus. He personally experienced God's love through the gentle eyes of Jesus, the tone of kindness in his voice, and the forgiveness that was visible in his smile.

Yet with all of this, Peter did not really find all that he was

Like Jesus did to Simon Peter, he says to each of us: "What are you looking for?" When you pray, and when you look at a crucifix, or when you see a picture of Jesus, what exactly are you looking for?

Jesus says: "Come and see!" Come and see what? His love? His healing power? His supernatural ability to answer our prayers? Whatever we're looking for, the reason we're seeking it is because we don't yet have it.

Jesus is the fulfillment of every promise by God the Father. Jesus is the fullness of love, the provider of mercy, the divine healer, the perfect mediator of all our prayers and concerns, and everything else we truly need. So, why does it feel like something is still missing? Why do our lives feel incomplete? Why do our prayers seem unanswered?

The answer is revealed in what happened after Peter began to follow Jesus. We read about it in Samuel's



looking for (remember how easily he felt afraid or confused or uncertain) until he was on the giving end of it. He didn't discover the fullness of Jesus until Jesus was no longer present in the flesh and Peter accepted the call to continue Christ's earthly

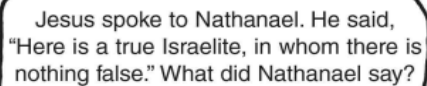
ministry.

The same is true for us who have never seen Jesus' actual eyes or heard his actual voice. We find what we're seeking when we give it to others. Why? Because then we discover that we really had it all along! This is the miracle of "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will."





























#### Reflect & Discuss:

- † What do you need from Jesus that he doesn't seem to be providing yet? At the core, what is it you're really seeking?
- † How can you find it by doing the will of God? Figure out something to do, then do it and see what happens.
- † Describe a time when you gave away what you thought you did not have (money? time? patience? hope? love?) How were you doing the will of God?
- † What happened to your own needs afterward?



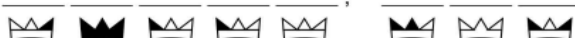


Use the code to find out:

	= A		= F		= K		= P		= U		= X
	= B		= G		= L		= Q		= V		= Y
	= C		= H		= M		= R		= W		= Z
	= D		= I		= N		= S				
	= E		= J		= O		= T				



66



# Children's Worship Bulletin™

**Ages 7+**

January 14, 2024 • John 1:43-51

## Jesus Calls His First Disciples



Jesus was leaving for Galilee  
with Peter, Andrew, James and John.  
He found someone and said, "Follow Me."  
Who was this new disciple?

Write the name of each picture in the squares.  
The darker boxes will hold the answer.



What did Philip tell his friend?



Write the letter of the alphabet that follows the one given.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} \hline & & & a & & & & & \\ \hline \text{V} & \text{D} & & \text{G} & \text{Z} & \text{U} & \text{D} & & \text{E} & \text{N} & \text{T} & \text{M} & \text{C} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

S   G   D   N   M   D   L   N   R   D   R

V   Q   N   S   D                    Z   A   N   T   S

H M     S G D     K Z V ,     Z M C

Z A N T S V G N L S G D

O Q N O G D S R Z K R N

V	Q	N	S	D	I	D	R	T	R
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

N	E	M	Z	Y	Z	Q	D	S	G
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

S   G   D   R   N   M   N   E

I N R D O G



**La vida de fe, una gran Aventura    La vida cristiana es una vida apasionante, de retos imposibles que sólo son posibles de lograr con la ayuda de un Dios todopoderoso**

**Por: Maleni Grider | Fuente: ACC Agencia de Contenido Católico**

**Llámame y te responderé; te mostraré cosas grandes y secretas que tú no conoces. Jeremías 33:3**

Es del dominio público que hay que tener un propósito en la vida, una causa, un proyecto, una pasión, un rumbo específico, a fin de vivir una vida plena, no inútil y sin sentido. De modo que algunos se dedican al arte, otros a la política, otros a deportes extremos, otros a la acción social, otros a la ecología, otros a escribir libros, otros a la familia, etcétera.

Pero hay una clase de personas que han decidido encontrar el propósito divino para su vida, más allá del propósito humano, terrenal. La Biblia, desde su primer libro (el Génesis) está lleno de historias y ejemplos de gente que estuvo en contacto con Dios, bajo diferentes empresas o circunstancias, quienes tuvieron vidas apasionantes, con un propósito eterno cuyo legado persiste hasta nuestros días. El cristianismo es la continuación y culminación de todo ello.

Si bien, en el Antiguo Testamento, todavía Cristo no estaba presente, el plan de Dios ya estaba trazado desde el principio, y fue anunciado a la humanidad a través de los profetas (mayores y menores) de las Escrituras. El Espíritu Santo ya coexistía con el Padre y con el Hijo en las regiones celestes, como una Trinidad.

Adán, Noé, Moisés, Abraham, Josué, David, Salomón, Daniel, Ruth, Isaías, Jeremías, Ezequiel, Juan el Bautista, Pedro, Pablo, Juan, María y José, María Magdalena, etcétera, son personajes cuyas historias nos impactan cuando leemos la Biblia. En general, la gente que no conoce las Escrituras ni la vida cristiana, piensa que es un libro simplemente histórico, referencial, genealógico y doctrinal. La Biblia es todo eso y más, pero mucho más allá de todo eso la Biblia es la fuente principal de revelación de Dios al hombre, junto con el Espíritu Santo que nos enseña todas las cosas.

La vida cristiana es una vida apasionante, de retos imposibles que sólo son posibles de lograr con la ayuda de un Dios todopoderoso, cuyo amor es inconmensurable, quien entregó lo que más amaba: a su Hijo unigénito, para darnos redención. La vida cristiana para muchos puede parecer absurda, o pueden tener una idea de que la santidad es algo aburrido, una pérdida de tiempo o algo fanático, irracional y fantasioso.

Pero la vida de santidad es una vida llena de exigencias y retos cada día, en donde negarnos a nosotros mismos, a los deseos de la carne y la renuncia al pecado son la meta y la prioridad, a fin de poder permanecer en comunión con el Creador, y con Jesús, nuestro Maestro y Salvador, quien nos dijo que permaneciéramos junto a Él pues lejos de Él nada podemos hacer. La vida cristiana tiene como propósito el amor, la expansión del evangelio, el establecimiento de la paz, la restauración de vidas perdidas, la sanidad de los enfermos, la reconstrucción de familias, la salvación de las almas, la justicia divina en la tierra, la vida de plenitud. No sé si pueda existir algo más importante que eso.

Puede parecer una utopía bajo la opinión y la visión social. Pero es una realidad tan clara para quienes la vivimos, que sólo puede explicarse como una vida sobrenatural, de total dependencia en Dios. La humildad, la renuncia a los placeres del mundo, el sacrificio y el servicio a los demás son el propósito medular de los creyentes verdaderos, aquellos que lo han dejado todo para tomar la cruz y seguir a Cristo.

Hay gozo, pasión, plenitud, milagros, pero también hay dolor, sacrificio, persecución en la vida cristiana. Sin embargo, ésta es una vida llena de sentido porque nos transforma de manera individual, primeramente. Y luego nos lleva al servicio a los demás, a dar nuestra vida no sólo por una meta personal y egoísta, sino por una causa comunitaria, compasiva, constructiva, donde el amor es el motor y el amor es algo que provoca milagros inimaginables.

Una vez escuché a alguien decir que aún en el supuesto de que el cristianismo fuera un “cuento”, como muchos creen, no se imaginaba poder tener una vida mejor o más plena que seguir a Jesucristo. Yo apenas comenzaba a andar en este camino. Treinta y tres años después puedo decir que tenía toda la razón: la vida cristiana es una vida que vale la pena vivir, y no puede haber otra más intensa, llena de sentido y fruto que ésta.

Jesús está en medio de los hombres, pero no es conocido por estos. No se le puede descubrir con una simple mirada. Se requieren unos ojos movidos por la fe. Sólo desde ella puede llegarse al fondo de la personalidad humano-divina de Jesús.

Se trata, pues, de una mirada especial. Por lo que sea, en un momento dado, esta mirada se da en nuestra vida; caemos en la cuenta de que, delante de nosotros, tenemos algo que se sale de lo normal, algo en lo que Dios se hace fuertemente presente. Y, tras detenernos en nuestra consideración, descubrimos esa presencia que se dirige a nosotros. Y, entonces, con razón, podemos exclamar que hemos visto al Señor.

Es algo que va más allá de la visión y la experiencia sensible o física. Se trata de una experiencia, de un descubrimiento personal. Le sucede a Juan Bautista: "Al ver Juan a Jesús que venía hacia él, exclamó: Este es aquel de quien yo dije: Tras de mí viene un hombre que está por delante de mí, porque existía antes que yo." Aunque Juan estaba esperándolo, se encuentra con Él de manera casi imprevisible, en un momento no elegido por él. La fe, ya desde aquí, es un completo regalo que nos viene de arriba.

Pero, para que sea completa, la fe necesita ser compartida. Primero, con aquel que nos la anuncia. "Y Juan dio testimonio... yo he visto, y he dado testimonio de que este es el Hijo de Dios". Después, con aquellos que han recibido el mismo descubrimiento. Sabemos que eso fue lo que hicieron los discípulos que oyeron el testimonio de Juan: fueron y vieron dónde moraba Jesús. Y ahí se consolida su fe y su seguimiento, que, a su vez, se hace vida y testimonio para otros muchos.

Todo esto ha tenido lugar en la vida de todos los que nos consideramos cristianos. De una manera u otra, todos hemos recibido la fe por el testimonio de las personas que nos rodean. Pero, ¿nos hemos sentido tocados vitalmente por ese anuncio? ¿hemos valorado, repensado, profundizado el mensaje que se nos ha transmitido? ¿hemos personalizado la fe, haciéndola decisión propia? Aquí se encierra toda una tarea de reflexión, estudio, conocimiento, análisis... de eso que llamamos fe. No es algo que, sin que pongamos nada por nuestra parte, prenda en nuestra vida después de sernos anunciada y transmitida. Aquí se encierra todo un tiempo (mucho) dedicado (diariamente) a dialogar con el Señor, que es el objeto y el centro de nuestra fe. Sinceramente, ¿actuamos así los que nos decimos cristianos? Y, además, es necesario compartirla, contrastarla... con aquellos que también han llegado a la fe. Aquí hay mucho de experiencia compartida, de análisis comunitario, de celebración eclesial... La fe se nos da en el seno de un pueblo de creyentes, para que la vivamos en su seno. Sinceramente, ¿actuamos así los que nos decimos cristianos?

Por último, la fe hay que contagiarla. La de otros dependerá de nuestro anuncio y testimonio. Aquí hay mucho de vida coherente, de valores defendidos, de proclamación... en la familia, en el trabajo, en la diversión... con los familiares, con los amigos, con los alumnos, con los compañeros de trabajo, con los vecinos... Un cristiano que no propague su fe y la guarde para sí mismo, no es cristiano. Sinceramente, ¿actuamos así los que nos decimos cristianos?

Este es el Cordero de Dios, el Hijo de Dios, el Salvador. Anúncialo con valentía después de conseguir el convencimiento que da el estudio, la oración, la celebración, la vida comunitaria.

*Miguel Esparza Fernández*





### La misión de Juan Bautista

**Cristo no amenazó a nadie, sino que se convirtió en alguien que simplemente amaba y quería la salvación para todos.**

**Por: P. Alberto Ramírez Mozqueda | Fuente: Catholic.net**

Marcos, el Evangelista que este año nos tomará de la mano para ir conociendo y viviendo el Evangelio, la Buena Nueva de salvación, comienza este día su mensaje, poniéndonos al frente de una manera directa y precisa, a Jesús, el Cristo, el Hijo de Dios como la Buena noticia de liberación. La Buena nueva consiste precisamente en que Jesús de Nazaret, engendrado en el tiempo en un oscuro pueblecito en las inmediaciones de la gran Jerusalén es precisamente el Cristo, el Mesías, el ungido, el que traería consigo la salvación y la paz para todos los hombres: "Aquí llega el Señor, lleno de poder, el que con su brazo lo domina todo, como pastor apacentará su rebaño: llevará en sus brazos a los corderitos recién nacidos y atenderá solícito a sus madres".

Pero si eso fuera todo, eso no sería noticia, pues Cristo murió en la cruz, víctima de un juicio injusto y lleno de maldad. Lo bueno viene cuando se asegura que Cristo es el Hijo de Dios y que por lo tanto y por su entrega, por su amor y su sacrificio por todos los hombres, el Padre lo resucita y lo hace sentar a su derecha. Es el Señor de todos los tiempos, de todos los continentes y de toda la historia. El profeta Isaías instaba entonces a preparar el camino al Señor que llega: "Sube a lo alto del monte, mensajero de buenas nuevas para Sión, alza con fuerza la voz, tú que anuncias noticias alegres a Jerusalén. Alza la voz y no temas; anuncia a los ciudadanos de Judá: "Aquí está su Dios".

Éste es entonces el personaje que anunciaba San Juan el Bautista, aquél ante quien se sentía pequeño pues él era sólo un enviado, un precursor, que tenía que anunciar precisamente la llegada del verdadero Enviado, el Mesías, el Salvador. Él consiguió entonces el primer milagro de la Salvación que el Señor traería a la tierra: alejar a los hombres de su vida rutinaria, en medio de una sociedad que no funcionaba como tal, un mundo de pecado y de maldad, en la capital Jerusalén y sus alrededores.

El Papa Benedicto XVI lo decía la semana pasada al describir el panorama de las ciudades postmodernas: "Las ciudades donde la vida se hace anónima y horizontal, donde Dios parece ausente y el hombre el único amo, como si fuera él el artífice y el director de todo: construcciones, trabajo, economía, transportes, ciencias, técnica, todo parece depender sólo del hombre. Y a veces, en este mundo que parece casi perfecto, suceden cosas chocantes, o en la naturaleza, o en la sociedad, por las que pensamos que Dios pareciera haberse retirado, que nos hubiera, por así decir, abandonado a nosotros mismos".

Pero la verdad es que Dios no abandona a su pueblo, sino que envía precisamente a su Hijo pero no para visitarnos, sino para quedarse con nosotros, haciéndose uno más entre nosotros, formando parte de nuestra vida y de nuestro entorno.

El Bautista hizo el milagro de convertir a los hombres, de bautizarlos con un bautismo de penitencia, de agua, en el Jordán, presagiando el bautismo en fuego, en el Espíritu Santo de Dios. Y pudo hacerlo porque el Bautista encarnaba en su propia vida lo que pedía a gritos a los demás. Les hablaba a los hombres con crudeza, con mucho realismo y cuando no conseguía mover a los hombres, no se detenía en la amenaza de castigos terribles para los morosos ante la salvación. Cristo, aunque se dejó bautizar por el Bautista, teniendo que hacer cola para acercarse a él, cambió la técnica usada por el Bautista para convertir a los hombres a la salvación de Dios. Cristo simplemente amaba y quería la salvación para todos. Y si la salvación ya está aquí, si Cristo ya ha llegado, ¿por qué no salir a su encuentro en cada uno de los que él vino a salvar, a los desprotegidos, los pobres y los que son tratados injustamente?

### Día de Oración y Sanación

Retiros después de Aborto Provocado: Un Día de Oración y Sanación para mujeres que han experimentado un aborto provocado tomará acabo el sábado, 10 de febrero del 2024. Estos eventos de sanación en grupo se hacen en un ambiente privado y tranquilo, en inglés y español, basado en el modelo "Entrando a Cana" (2 retiros separados en 1 ubicación). Habrá una oportunidad de oír de participantes pasados y otras que han encontrado la sanación. No estás sola. Toma el primer paso. Para preguntas confidenciales, llame al Proyecto Raquel: (703) 841-2504 o [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org).

### 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.



**BURKE FAMILY ORTHODONTICS**  
**Dr. Kevin Toms**  
**Dr. Rodney Klima**  
 Braces & Invisalign  
 Children & Adults  
 703-425-5125  
[burkefamilyortho.com](http://burkefamilyortho.com)

**SENIOR AND MILITARY DISCOUNTS!**  
**FINANCING AVAILABLE**  
**ROOFING**  
 DECKS • SIDING  
 GUTTERS  
 FREE wind & Hail Damage  
 Inspections for Roofs  
 Insurance Claims Specialists  
**MidAtlantic**  
 703-492-HOME (4661)  
 or 571-408-4349  
[www.MAContracting.com](http://www.MAContracting.com)

**I ♥ SPARTANS**  
**FAMILY RESTAURANT**  
 9542 BURKE RD. BURKE, VA 22015  
[www.ILoveSpartans.com](http://www.ILoveSpartans.com) (703) 503-5800



**FITNESS FOR EVERYONE!**  
**WORKHORSE**  
 ATHLETICS  
**1 FREE WEEK**



Stop by before or after Mass.  
 Come Hungry, Leave Happy  
 We are always open!

**WE ARE HIRING!**  
 Servers • Hostess  
 any shift - full and part time



Your local Burke IHOP proudly supports Nativity Church.

We are open 24 hours a day 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Free Wi-Fi, Kids Eat free on Tuesday nights, and Wednesday is Senior Night. See what's new at IHOP.

Make it an **IHop** day.



**BOGACKI & BOGACKI**  
**DDS, PC**  
 Family and  
 Cosmetic Dentistry  
 Friendly  
 and  
 Courteous Staff  
 8344 Traford Lane  
 Springfield, VA 22152  
 (703) 451-2867  
[www.BogackiDental.com](http://www.BogackiDental.com)



The App for  
 Catholic Life Every Day  
[www.myParishApp.com](http://www.myParishApp.com)  
 Available for Apple and Android

## CLUB PILATES BURKE

SHED THE EXTRA HOLIDAY  
 CALORIES WHILE YOU:

- TONE & STRENGTHEN
- BOOST FLEXIBILITY
- DECREASE STRESS



**SILVER SPONSOR**

of Nativity Auction 2023

*First Time?*  
 Try it FREE!



Located next to Kohl's and Chick-fil-A in Burke Centre | CALL 703.691.5999 or [www.clubpilates.com/nativityburke](http://www.clubpilates.com/nativityburke) today

**NOW HIRING**  
**SALES REPRESENTATIVE**  
 Join Our Family - [Diocesan.com/Careers](http://Diocesan.com/Careers)

**DIOCESAN**  
 Catholic Life Every Day  
 PUT YOUR FAITH  
 TO WORK.



Providing a lifestyle our residents  
 have earned and deserve since 1991

Call 703-425-1698 for a tour  
[www.rui.net/heatherwood](http://www.rui.net/heatherwood)



**B.J. Pool & Spa**

A Full Service Pool and Spa Company

Parishioner  
 Robert M Seh  
 6413 Little Ox Rd.  
 Fairfax Station, VA

703.323.1333

703.239.0138

[bob@bjpoolandspa.com](mailto:bob@bjpoolandspa.com)

[www.bjpoolandspa.com](http://www.bjpoolandspa.com)

**Caffi SERVICES, INC**  
 PLUMBING HEATING HVAC REMODELING  
 100 POWHATAN STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-1042  
 (703) 836-6775  
[www.caffiservices.com](http://www.caffiservices.com)  
[service@caffiservices.com](mailto:service@caffiservices.com)  
 Serving the DC Metropolitan Area since 1967

**ACCOUNTING & TAX SOLUTIONS, INC**

- Tax Preparation/Planning  
 Individuals • Corporations • Partnerships • Estates • Trusts
- Accounting/Bookkeeping
- Payroll Services/Retirement Plans

Mary Elizabeth Nuti, EA - Parishioner

Admitted to practice before the Internal Revenue Service

703-451-1040 • 9243 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke

## LAW OFFICE OF JOHN F. RICHTER, PLC

Servicios Legales en Virginia:

- Testamentos y Fideicomisos
- Planificación y Sucesión Patrimonial
- Elaboración y Revisión de Contratos (Compra y Venta de Casa)
- Agregar o Remover Personas del Título de su Casa

<https://johnrichterlaw.com>

No cargos en su primera cita con nuestro abogado.  
 Puede contactarnos en cualquiera de nuestras dos oficinas:

8045 Burke Centre Plaza, Ste. 202, Burke, VA 22071 | 4225 Brandon Ave., Ste. 220, Springfield, VA 22150

John Richter, Attorney  
 703.451.6600  
[jrichter@richterlaw.com](mailto:jrichter@richterlaw.com)

Katherine Oliva, Assistant  
 571.655.2451  
[koliva@richterlaw.com](mailto:koliva@richterlaw.com) (Habla Español)

**ADVERTISE  
 HERE**

Promote your Business  
 AND Support your Parish.

Give us a call! **800-233-8200**



**MURPHY LAW GROUP, PLLC**  
Wills, Trusts, Estates, & More  
9300-B Old Keene Mill Road, Burke, VA  
703-455-7177  
[www.MurphyLawVA.com](http://www.MurphyLawVA.com)

**TD Barber Shop**  
Thuan Do • Parishioner  
9530 Old Keene Mill Road  
Burke, VA 22015  
(703) 913-4277  
[www.TDBarber.com](http://www.TDBarber.com)  
HOURS: Mon-Fri (9am - 7pm)  
Sat (8am-5pm) • Sun (10am-4pm)

**MowCow**  
LAWN & LANDSCAPE  
SIGN UP  
INSTANTLY  
ONLINE!  
703-543-7600  
[MowCow.com/Leaf](http://MowCow.com/Leaf)

**James F. McIntyre**  
Certified Public Accountant  
Parishioner  
[Jim@JFMcIntyreCPA.com](mailto:Jim@JFMcIntyreCPA.com)  
[www.jfmcintyre CPA.com](http://www.jfmcintyre CPA.com)  
(703) 391-1099

**Peter K. Cocolis Jr., DMD**  
Family & Cosmetic Dentistry  
• Quality Care • Latest Techniques  
• Convenient Appointments  
Call 703-912-3800  
[www.smiles4va.com](http://www.smiles4va.com)  
PARL'HIONER'S  
5803 Rolling Road, Suite 211  
Next to Interstate Van Lines



**Brennan's TREE SERVICE**  
703-218-8003  
[www.brennansreeservice.com](http://www.brennansreeservice.com)  
30% off any tree work for parishioners  
• Tree Removal • Spikeless Pruning • Stump Grinding  
• Free Unsplit Wood • Lot Clearing • Tree Planting • Free Chips

**MARY KAY**  
Joanne Fabish, Parishioner  
Independent Beauty Consultant  
703-455-8958  
[www.marykay.com/jfabish](http://www.marykay.com/jfabish)

**Merino's Maids LLC**  
House Cleaning  
Maid service  
Fully Licensed and Insured  
• Excellent References • 25 Continuous years of Experience  
• Weekly, Bi Weekly, Monthly  
• Moving In-OUT Cleaning Specialist • Low Prices in Town  
Call For A Free Estimate  
(703) 867-2145 • [Sandra.merino2145@gmail.com](mailto:Sandra.merino2145@gmail.com)

**GENERAL, IMPLANT & COSMETIC DENTISTRY**  
Robert D. Argentieri, D.D.S., MAGD  
Cristian Alcantara, D.D.S.  
Providing Exceptional  
Dental Care for 40 years  
703-569-6644  
[www.springfielddental.com](http://www.springfielddental.com)  
6201 Old Keene Mill Court,  
Springfield, VA 22152

*I am truly blessed to have helped many of our parishioners*  
Diane A. Sundt, ABR, GRI, SRES  
[diane.sundt@LNF.com](mailto:diane.sundt@LNF.com)  
703-615-4626  
Over 20 Years Experience  
Parishioner  
Military Relocation  
Specialist  
Licensed in Virginia  
6045 Burke Centre Pkwy  
Burke, VA 22015

**Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will**  
For further information, please call the parish office.

**PJL LAW**  
Wills, Trusts, & Probate  
for Catholic Families  
(703) 865-6100  
Fairfax, VA  
[www.pjlilaw.com](http://www.pjlilaw.com) | [welcome@pjlilaw.com](mailto:welcome@pjlilaw.com)

**EWTN.COM/RADIO**  
Global Catholic Radio  
TUNE IN

**Jefferson Funeral Chapel**  
[www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com](http://www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com) • Email: [info@jeffersonfuneralchapel.com](mailto:info@jeffersonfuneralchapel.com)  
Family Owned  
5755 Castlewellan Drive, Alexandria, VA 22315  
Just off S. VanDorn St (Kingstowne) 703-971-7400

**FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY**  
DR. SUSANA RAYGADA, DMD, Harvard University  
DR. KATRINA HERNANDEZ-LEVERIZA, DMD, Univ of Pennsylvania  
Rated Top Dentist by Virginia Living Mag. and Checkbook  
5211 Lyngate Ct, Burke, VA • 703-523-1400 • [dentist@burkeva.com](mailto:dentist@burkeva.com)  
**FAIRFAX STATION CHIROPRACTIC & MASSAGE**  
[fairfaxstationchiropractic.com](http://fairfaxstationchiropractic.com)  
Christopher Virusky, D.C.  
703-493-8445

**pediatric dental care**  
[www.mypdc dentists.com](http://www.mypdc dentists.com)  
Dr. John Han (Parishioner)  
Fairfax Office: 703.383.3434  
9901 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax, VA 22030  
Springfield Office: 703.992.7100  
6120 Brandon Ave. Suite 114, Springfield, VA 22150

**KELLIHER FAMILY DENTISTS**  
Jeremiah J. Kelliher, D.D.S.  
Sean P. Kelliher, D.D.S.  
Karen Kelliher Wilson, R.D.H.  
Kathleen Kelliher Ketch, R.D.H.  
(703) 451-5030  
6120 Brandon Ave.  
Suite 211, Springfield

**Virginia Eyecare Center**  
VISION SOURCE  
(703) 569-3131  
Dr. Courtney Shay  
Dr. Tim LaFreniere  
Dr. Kathryn Huebner  
Dr. Mallory Cranmer  
Dr. Bryan Procopio  
Dr. Alyssa Shema  
9314-A Old Keene Mill Rd  
[www.virginiaeyecare.com](http://www.virginiaeyecare.com)

(703) 716-ROOF (7663) | [www.sjroof.com](http://www.sjroof.com)

**ST JOSEPH'S ROOFING**  
Roofing | Siding | Gutters | Windows/Doors  
Insurance Claims | Storm Damage | Repairs

**Cardinal PLAZA SHELL**  
Expert Maintenance & Repairs  
703-451-6232  
[www.CardinalPlazaShell.com](http://www.CardinalPlazaShell.com)

**Kitchens • Baths • Basements**  
**ALW**  
HOME IMPROVEMENTS  
Mike Jones - 703.451.0800  
[www.alwhome.com](http://www.alwhome.com)  
Class A Contractor with  
Over 30 Years Experience

Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.  
Simply go to [www.DM.CHURCH/3134](http://www.DM.CHURCH/3134) ...or scan   
DISCOVERMASS

**BODY Design**  
by Allisa  
Pilates, Barre and Fitness Studio  
[www.bodydesignbyallisa.com](http://www.bodydesignbyallisa.com)  
ALISSA HARAKAL  
Owner  
484-894-5143

**Certified Public Accountants**  
**DONOVAN & WAGNER, P.C.**  
Accounting Services & Business Advisory  
Income Taxes | Eldercare Bookkeeping  
[www.DaW.cpa](http://www.DaW.cpa)  
Burke Professional Center • 5210-B Lyngate Court  
703-426-5560

**State Farm**  
Providing Insurance and Financial Services  
Auto • Life • Home • Health • Business Insurance • Bank  
6560 Backlick Road • Suite #207 • Springfield, VA 22150  
Agent  
**Arceli Magpayo Brown**  
703-269-0673  
[arceli@arcelibrown.com](mailto:arceli@arcelibrown.com) • [www.arcelibrown.com](http://www.arcelibrown.com)  
Parishioner Over 10 Years & Over 30 Years Experience  
Se Habla Español  
Licensed in VA • DC • MD

**Carpe Diem**  
Weichert  
It's Your Move  
JimDay@Weichert.com  
MILITARY Relocation Specialist  
SENIORS Real Estate Specialist  
703.307.5467

