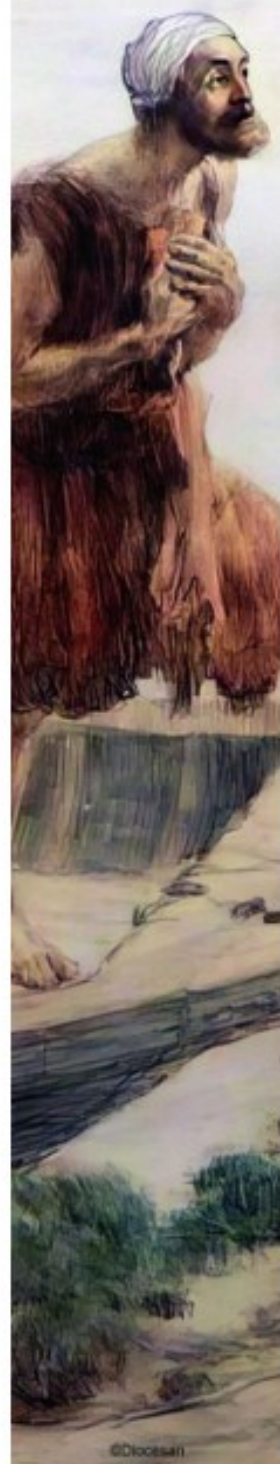


COME AFTER ME *and I will make you* FISHERS OF MEN

MARK 1:17



©Diosan



**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



"Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the Lord must be your strength" - Nehemiah : 810

My dear parishioners,

The people of Israel finally returned from their exile. Ezra, the priest, reads to them from the Torah and preaches. It lasted half a day. When he ended, the people rejoiced not because it was over but that now his words and teaching helped them rediscover their common roots and the truth of who they could be in the Lord, a truly chosen people.

Today we celebrate "Word of God Sunday" established by Pope Francis. Every Mass has two main parts: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The church teaches us that we reverence the Scriptures just as we reverence Christ himself. God wants to speak to our hearts and feed us with His word. Today we rejoice in the gift of Gods loving Word that has power to change our lives, to inspire our futures, to heal our wounds and answer our deepest longing. May the Word of God, rich as it is, dwell in us always .

When we gather for the Sunday Eucharist, the Scriptures remind us of who we are called to be. In a culture where moral standards are always in danger of slipping away, the teachings of the gospel show us the heights to which we can rise. The scriptures and homily keep us in touch with our roots and to what God is calling us to do. They are the place of the life giving truth that we are all parts of the one Body of Christ and of a mission, sending us to extend the reach of Christ to people around us in this New Year.

Love and Blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski

Fr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

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!

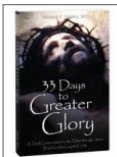
APPALACHIA HOME BUILDING SPECIAL COLLECTION - THIS WEEKEND

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.

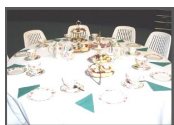
Please help if you can, but above all pray that we may be able to continue this important mission! The Knights will be collecting at all the church exits after all the Masses - **checks may be made payable to Nativity Catholic Church but annotate Appalachia Home Building on the check and your church 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!



33 Days to Greater Glory

Save the Date – February 27th! Come and see! Join us on a spiritual journey to more deeply experience God the Father's Love, as Jesus experienced it. 33 Days to Greater Glory is a Fr. Gaitley, MIC, retreat focused on St. John's Gospel that prepares us for consecration to God the Father.

The program features 6 Zoom meetings on Tuesday evenings 7:45 to 9:00 PM beginning February 27th. The program concludes with a total consecration to God the Father on April 7. For more information and to register, visit the Nativity website: <https://nativityburke.org/33-day-retreat/> or contact: Marcelo Michel at 33DayConsecration@nativityburke.org.



Vocations Event: High Tea and Hildegard
Sunday, January 21, 2024 from 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.

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.

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

**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

SCHOOL AUCTION ITEM OF THE WEEK:

If you're looking for a First Communion gift for a girl, you can't go wrong with this handmade First Communion veil and Nao "Girl Praying" figurine. Donated by Natacha Hines, the caretaker of the Nativity Gift Shop and talented seamstress. No two veils made by Natacha are the same. This set is a perfect keepsake to remember the sacred occasion for years to come.

Thank You from the Nativity Craft Group

For the generous support of our wonderful Nativity Community! Your contributions and faithful support of our Christmas Bazaar have made a difference in the lives of many.

The Craft Group is always open to new members who enjoy learning new things, great fellowship and having a great time creating lovely items. We also accept and appreciate any donation of yarn and fabric used to make the various items for the Bazaar. The group meets every Thursday at 9:30am in the Fr. Ready Room. We invite everyone to visit and/or participate.

Thank you for your wonderful support!
 The Nativity Craft Group

2024 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA) Begins!

The 2024 BLA mailing was recently sent to parishioners. The theme this year is shared with the theme of our Diocesan Jubilee: "Behold, I make all things new." After reflecting upon the blessings God has given you, please prayerfully consider a pledge.



SCAN ME

As we look forward to the celebration of the 50-year Golden Anniversary of our diocese, let us renew our commitment to the Lord and be inspired to share what we have received from Him. Make a gift at: www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code.

National Eucharistic Revival

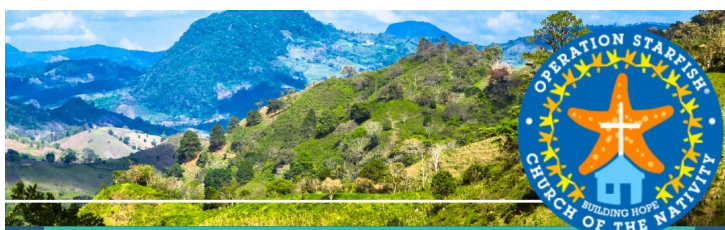
Catholics all across the country are in the middle of a National Eucharistic Revival, an initiative of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops that aims to inspire, educate, and unite the faithful in a more intimate relationship with Jesus in the Eucharist, which is the source and summit of our Catholic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

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 22nd

7:30 am † Nicolas Gavilan

Tuesday, January 23rd

7:30 am † Diosdado & Ising Buendia

12:00 pm † Helen Brzys

Wednesday, January 24th

7:30 am † Joseph M. Bowers Jr.

10:00 am Special Int. for Brigitta Immaculata
 (Heatherwood)

Thursday, January 25th

7:30 am † Richard Blake

12:00 pm † Daniel Panganiban

Friday, January 26th

7:30 am Special Int. for the Sutton Family

9:00 am † Raymond Jagger

Saturday, January 27th

9:00 am † Tom McNamara

5:00 pm † Richard Dorwaldt

7:00 pm † Rodolfo Ortiz Prada

Sunday, January 28th

7:00 am † Cecile Mary Bosworth

9:00 am Parishioners

11:00 am † Jimmie Hillebrandt

1:00 pm Special Int. for Bill Moeller

5:30 pm Special Int. for Ed & Sharry Linz

In prayer, let us remember
 the sick and deceased of the parish
 visit 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.

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.



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



Calling all bands and DJs!

We're hosting the annual Nativity Stars Gala & Auction on Saturday, April 27. This year's theme is *"Dancing Through the Decades,"* focusing on the 50s through the 80s. We are looking for amazing musical talent to make the night unforgettable. If you're in a band/DJ or know someone who's available, we would love to hear from you! It's a fantastic opportunity to showcase your skills and contribute to a wonderful community event.

Interested or know someone who might be, please email auction@nativityschool.org.

Make a Positive Impact by Showing Solidarity with the Church in Latin America Second Collection



On January 27-28, 2024, Catholics in many dioceses throughout the United States will participate in the special annual collection for the Church in Latin America.

Your contribution makes a positive impact by supporting seminary studies for future priests, pastoral ministries that provide reconciliation, spiritual direction, and job search assistance to

prisoners completing jail sentences, and other vital ministries that bring the light of Christ into the lives of thousands in Central and South America and the Caribbean islands.

The Church in the United States has strengthened its relationship with the Church in Latin America through this collection for nearly 60 years, and you can join in by giving at Mass or through your parish's online giving/e-offertory platform. #iGiveCatholic. Second Collection next weekend.

Nativity Art & Environment Committee Thank You

The Art & Environment Ministry is looking for more parishioners to be part of a team to decorate the church throughout the year. The Ministry could use many more helping hands for the upcoming Lent, Easter and Pentecost seasons.

If interested in helping to decorate OR care for the plants, please contact the Art & Environment Ministry Chair Vickie Sands at artandenvironment@nativityburke.org.

Vickie would like to thank parishioners Bill and Connie Meskill, Tom Powers, Johana Grayson, Judy Toy, Marilyn Runk, Annalisa Licud, Nancy Deem, Kathy Sawyer, Mary Sullivan Haller, and Evan Bond for donating their time, talents and energy to change out the liturgical church decorations during the seasons of November month of remembrance, Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas.

Special thanks is due to Johana Grayson who volunteered nearly every step of the way and was sometimes asked to coordinate. We appreciate the church staff, sacristan Maureen Anderson, facility manager Carlos Gutierrez and his assistant Antonio Infantes Perez for their help and coordination. A hearty thanks as well goes to Bonnie Goodwin, Barbara Zagalak, Chris Keane and Gerri Hemmick for taking turns to water the potted plants weekly, and to Bonnie Carpenter for looking after our weekly flower arrangements.

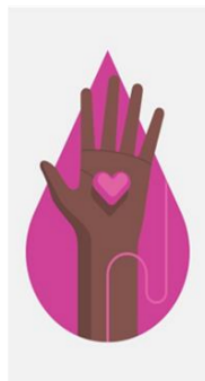
Pray for those who are discerning a call to proclaim the hope of the Resurrection as religious brothers, sisters, priests or deacons.

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.



Inova Blood Donor Services

Church of the Nativity Blood Drive



Saturday, February 3, 2024

7 a.m. – 12 p.m.

6400 Nativity Ln., Burke, VA

Inova Blood Donor Services will be in the Parish Hall.

Account coordinator

Mark Altobelli

(571) 309-7194 | mark.altobelli@gmail.com

Photo ID required. Masking is optional for all donors and team members.
 Allow one hour for your donation.



Book your appointment today!

Visit <https://bit.ly/CON0203>

Call 1.866.256.6372, use code 6052

Marriage Enrichment Ministry

Marriage Enrichment Session

Theology of the Body

Saturday

February 10th | Fr. Ready Room

6:30 PM Refreshments &

Fellowship

7:00 PM Speaker

speaker

Alex Wolfe

RSVP

Anna Lisa Email:
marriage@nativityburke.org
Or text your names to:
(571) 208-2821



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

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. Thank you and God bless you!



BIBLE STUDIES AT NATIVITY PARISH

Tuesday morning Bible Study: We meet from 10am to 11:30 am in Fr Ready room. This year we are looking at the Gospel and readings for Sunday, seeking to find within something which touches our lives and /or the world around us. **Contact Miya Johnson** miyajohnson@verizon.net

Tuesday evening Young Adult Bible Studies: 6 weeks in small groups. At different times throughout the year, we offer 6-week long Bible studies where we encounter Jesus through the Gospels. We read three chapters of Scripture each week and come together to talk about it. We put you into a group and each group chooses where to meet, usually at a local restaurant or coffee shop. Register at <https://nativityburke.org/ya-bible-study/> **Contact Alison Fram** afram@nativityburke.org.

Wednesday morning and evening. Walking With Purpose: Meeting in person. Walking with Purpose is a study program that aims to help bring women closer to Christ through Scripture. **Meets** weekly in person on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Registration for Fall 2024 will be available in July 2024. Visit <https://nativityburke.org/www/> for details about the ministry OR **contact** wwpnativity@gmail.com with questions.

Thursday evening Bible Study: Meeting in person/virtually. Currently studying the Old Testament **Book of Tobit**, featuring the Angel **Raphael**, written a few hundred years before the birth of Jesus. **Meets** each Thursday from 7:30 – 9:00pm in person in the school's Art Room and virtually. **Contact Deacon Dick Kelly** Deaconrfk@aol.com

Friday morning Women's Bible Study: Meetings are Friday Mornings from 10:00am -12:00 noon in the Father Ready room. We are studying **Galatians** (Jan/Feb 2024) and the **Gospel of Mark** (Mar/Apr 2024). Spring sessions will be in person. Winter session will be on Zoom. Join us for prayer, study, and fellowship! Register for the next session at <https://nativityburke.org/womens-bible-study-registration/> **Contact Camille Pryor** at wbs@nativityburke.org

Viernes por la noche Estudio Bíblico: El estudio bíblico en español "Little Rock" es un programa conducido por el Hno. Pedro Del Aguila y tres asistentes. Este ministerio está en nuestra parroquia de Natividad desde 2014, alentando a los fieles a tener una mejor visión de la Iglesia Católica y crear en ellos un interés mas profundo en las sagradas Escrituras. **Horario:** Viernes de 7:00–9:00 pm | **De Septiembre 8, 2023 a Junio 7, 2024. Lugar:** Salón Fr. Ready **Este ciclo estaremos estudiando: El evangelio según San Juan y las Cartas. Contactarse: Elba Pfeifer, elbitabonita@aol.com**

Saturday morning That Man Is You: Meeting in person. A men's program that combines Scripture with the best research from science in an engaging interactive program that addresses the pressures and temptations facing Catholic men in our modern culture. **Meets** each Saturday 6:50 - 8:00 am in the Fr Ready room. **Contact Tim Yeager** yeagertd@verizon.net or **Bob Sands** bob@sandmark.net.

Saturday morning Men's Prayer and Reflection Group: Meeting in-person/virtually. Men of all ages! We hear the scriptures every Sunday, but to what extent do we understand what God is telling us and how He is enriching our very lives today? Join us in reading, researching, and reflecting on Sunday scriptures and discussing how it relates to our lives and helps us become better Catholic men, husbands, dads, family members, friends, parishioners, citizens, and above all, intentional disciples of Christ. Enjoy the fellowship! **Meet** Saturdays from 8-9am in the Training/Cry Room or Virtually. Drop-ins are always welcome! **Contact Rick Loffredo** rickloffredo@outlook.com.

Bible Study Programs at Nativity
"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ!" St. Jerome

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





Parish App Feature-of-the-Week



Inspiration
Daily

- Thoughts on Catholic life
- Informative and inspirational
- Simple insight for living a deeper faith everyday

Learn more or download our parish app at myparishapp.com

*Available on Apple and Android Phones.

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 | 7:00-8:30 pm

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](https://www.instagram.com/nativitycym)







"Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men."

Is the Lord calling upon you to cast a wider net with a vocation as to the priesthood or consecrated life? Contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-2514.

Day of Prayer for the Protection of Unborn Children Monday, January 22

"A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer."

*Pope Saint John Paul II
Evangelium vitae*



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





NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



Join Us Next Sunday ~ OPEN HOUSE ~
During Catholic Schools Week
Right After 9:00 am Mass on Sunday, January 28
From 10:00 am - 12 NOON
We Have a Seat for Your Child!
For details, contact Shannon Murphy at
(703) 455-2300, or smurph@nativityschool.org

The Future... Is In Their Hands!



Tasked with designing a city completely powered by electricity generated from sources that keep residents and the environment healthy and safe, our three talented student engineering teams each planned and built a model city that could exist at least 100 years in the future.



Each of our teams returned with at least one award. Our first team, Team KAR, won "Most Innovative Design of City Infrastructure & Systems" from the American Society of Civil Engineers: Maryland Section. Our second team, Team Squid V4, won "Best Visualization of a Smart Sustainable City," sponsored by ASCE, and, from the Future City Steering Committee, "Best Use of the Theme." Our third team, Team Gute Stadt, was awarded Pennoni Associates' "Best Utility Plan." We cannot wait to see what these talented young engineers are working on next!

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

~ Important Upcoming Dates ~

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



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.

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

27 Jan Adopt-a-Highway clean up, Volunteer on Link Tree. 20, 21, 27 & 28 Jan / 2 & 3 Feb. Blood Drive Prep - volunteer clipboard sign-up motivator after mass. Volunteer on Link Tree.

3 February Blood Drive - Sign up to donate blood. Volunteer on Link Tree.

3 & 4 February St. Lucy - Blue Bags Hand Out, Stand in Narthex after Mass and distribute food bags. Volunteer on Link Tree.

6 February 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 February 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.

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.

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 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>.

and experience the Knights free for one year: Enter the Agent Code "CPEREZ", click "Add" and complete the form. Be sure to enter our council #7992 for local information when you register. Please email our Deputy Grand Knight at cokofc7992@gmail.com for more info.

PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ **FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD** **21 JANUARY 2024**

(Vatican City, 15 January 2024) – The fifth Sunday of the Word of God, a day instituted by Pope Francis on 30 September 2019, will be celebrated on 21 January 2024. The motto for this edition is taken from the Gospel of John: “Remain in my Word” (John 8:31). At 9.30 on Sunday 21 January, the Pope will preside over the celebration of the Holy Eucharist in St Peter's Basilica and, following this, with the aim of reviving the responsibility that believers have in the knowledge of Sacred Scripture, he will give those present the Gospel of Mark.

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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.

FIAT fun with the
 #MediaNuns

LIGHTS!
Camera!
ACTION!

FIAT ENTRY

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

Catholic Diocese of Arlington and Arlington Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

2024 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Behold, I Make
All Things New



March 9th

8:30am - 2:15pm
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 Michael F. Burbidge
 Bishop of Arlington
 Mass Celebrant and Homilist



Patricia Sandoval
 International Pro-life
 Speaker and Author



Sr. Mary
 Madeline Todd, O.P.
 Author and
 Theologian

Register:

ARLINGTONDIOCESE.ORG
WOMEN



The Office of Marriage, Family
 and Respect Life
 (703) 841-2550
familylife@arlingtondiocese.org



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:

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<http://bit.ly/SMDPVOL>

or SCAN this code



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La única fuerza capaz de cambiar el mundo

Autor: Mons. Ciriaco Benavente Mateos

San Lucas 1-1-4; 4, 14-21:

Es un hecho recurrente que cada cierto tiempo algunos periódicos se creen obligados a servirnos noticias sensacionales sobre Jesús. Documentos editados y manejados por los estudiosos desde hace siglos se nos presentan como recién desenterrados de las arenas del desierto, como nuevos y extraordinarios hallazgos sobre Jesús, que vendrían a poner en tela de juicio todo lo afirmado hasta ahora. A veces hasta se presentan como textos ocultos por la Iglesia con no sé que secretas intenciones. Lo grave es que esto se lance al mercado de un público que no distingue lo que es la investigación científica de la noticia sensacionalista que sólo pretende vender.

Uno ya conoció hace años la imagen de un Jesús a lo Che-Guevara. Hoy, en tales supuestos hallazgos, Jesús se parece más a un pacífico revolucionario esotérico. La cosa no es nueva; ya en los primeros tiempos circularon relatos apócrifos, que las mismas comunidades cristianas rechazaron como no verídicos. Sólo se aceptaron como verdaderos evangelios los cuatro que conocemos. Y no es por casualidad que éstos sean bastantes más antiguos que los otros, que datan de los siglos segundo, tercero o cuarto.

Leemos hoy el breve prólogo que Lucas colocó al comienzo de su evangelio. Nos habla de cómo otros han emprendido la tarea de relatar los hechos transmitidos por los que fueron testigos oculares de Jesús desde el principio: “Por eso yo también, después de investigar-lo todo cuidadosamente desde los orígenes, he resuelto escribírtelo por orden, para que compruebes la solidez de las enseñanzas que has recibido”. Es un testimonio precioso sobre la fiabilidad de los evangelios. No se puede olvidar el interés de los discípulos en guardar en la memoria las palabras y los hechos de Jesús y el empeño de transmitirlos con exactitud. Se trataba de las palabras y los hechos de aquél a quien querían y por y el que acabarían dando la vida, rubricando la fidelidad de su testimonio con la propia sangre. No eran mitos o leyendas lo que los miembros de las primeras comunidades querían conocer, sino lo que había sucedido, lo que Jesús había enseñado, sus sufrimientos en la pasión y el transcendental acontecimiento de su resurrección. Éstos relatos se transmitieron primero oralmente. Dos de los evangelistas habían sido discípulos de Jesús. Lucas se incorporaría más tarde. Le encontramos acompañando a san Pablo. En el libro de los Hechos de los Apóstoles cuenta con precisos detalles los viajes en los que acompañó al Apóstol. Por eso, decide conscientemente, a partir de sus investigaciones, ofrecer en su evangelio una exposición fiable para que la comunidad cristiana sepa que su fe se apoyaba en bases sólidas.

Tras el breve prólogo, nos cuenta Lucas que cómo Jesús empieza sus enseñanzas en las sinagogas. No inicia su ministerio en Jerusalén, la ciudad del templo, de los reyes y de los pontífices, sino en un rincón lejano y olvidado, “la Galilea de los gentiles” como entonces decían con desprecio.

Un sábado vino a Nazaret, la aldea donde se había criado. Como era su costumbre los sábados, entró en la sinagoga y se levantó para hacer la lectura. (Lo que hacéis, domingo tras domingo en nuestras misas, tantos buenos cristianos). Encontró el pasaje donde está escrito: “El Espíritu del Señor está sobre mí, porque él me ha ungido. Me ha enviado para proclamar el Evangelio a los pobres, para anunciar a los cautivos la libertad, para dar vista a los ciegos. Para liberar a los oprimidos, para anunciar el año de gracia del Señor”. Se trata de una liberación que abarca al hombre entero, que implica además todos los dones de gracia y salvación: Él trae el gran jubileo y el gran júbilo: la presencia de la gracia y de la salvación.

Acabada la lectura se permitió hacer una breve homilía. La más breve y la más verdadera jamás pronunciada: “Hoy, entre vosotros, se cumple esta Escritura que acabáis de escuchar”. Lucas utiliza doce veces en su Evangelio ese solemne y misterioso “hoy”, como si se hubieran detenido todos los relojes. ¿Sigue siendo realidad ese “hoy” de Jesús en medio de nosotros? ¿Le seguimos experimentando como nuestro Salvador, lo siguen experimentando los pobres como buena noticia para su vida?

Es verdad que Jesús no ha abierto todas las prisiones, no ha curado a todos los ciegos, ni a todos los enfermos, no ha quitado de nuestro planeta todas las opresiones. Pero en su persona y en los signos que hacía se manifestaba que el Reino de Dios estaba presente y operante. En él se revelaba la fuerza del amor, la única fuerza capaz de cambiar el mundo, porque es la única fuerza capaz de cambiar el corazón del hombre. Cuantos se acercaron a él con fe tuvieron la dicha de experimentarlo. ...continúa en la próxima página

En Jesús se hizo realidad lo que anunciaba. Se ha hecho realidad y se sigue haciendo allí donde hay cristianos ungidos, conducidos y alentados por el Espíritu. A lo largo de los dos mil siglos de cristianismo, ayer y hoy, no han cesado de surgir obras admirables de misericordia que han sido alegría para los pobres. ¡Tantas obras y tantas personas que se han entregado en cuerpo y alma a curar, a enseñar, a dar de comer, a llevar la Buena Noticia a los demás! Otras veces han sido voces proféticas las que se han levantado denunciando injusticias y opresiones. ¿Se cumple hoy en nosotros, ungidos también por el Espíritu, la palabra que hemos proclamado?

+ Ciriaco Benavente Mateos Obispo de Albacete

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday, January 21

Jon 3:1-5,10

Ps 25:4-9

1 Cor 7:29-31

Mk 1:14-20

Monday, January 22

Pray for the Legal Protection of the Unborn

2 Sm 5:1-7,10

Ps 89:20-22,25-26

Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday, January 23

2 Sm 6:12b-15,17-19

Ps 24:7-10

Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday, January 24

St. Francis de Sales

2 Sm 7:4-17

Ps 89:4-5,27-30

Mk 4:1-20

Thursday, January 25

Conversion of St. Paul

Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22

Ps 117:1bc,2

Mk 16:15-18

Friday, January 26

Sts. Timothy and Titus

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5

Ps 96:1-3,7-8a,10

Mk 4:26-34

Saturday, January 27

2 Sm 12:1-7a,10-17

Ps 51:12-17

Mk 4:35-41

Today's Gospel reading is a call to surrender ourselves fully to God. "Now is the time of fulfillment" – not just 2,000 years ago, not at the Second Coming of Christ, but right now in your life when and where you need Jesus the most.

"The kingdom of God is at hand" – what you need from the Lord is right here, at hand, ready for you.

"Repent, and believe in the gospel" means "Come follow Me and learn from Me to become like Me." For the first disciples, it meant dropping whatever they were doing to spend so much time with Jesus that their whole lives were forever affected.

And this is what it means for you and for me: We have to put aside our own agendas and overly busy schedules to spend more time following Jesus wherever he leads us.

In the modern world, we have become more dependent on our technological devices than on Jesus. Many of us cannot even go on vacation without remaining accessible to their employers via the cell phone. Somehow, we need to find a way to take a stand against this.

It's one of the social justice teachings of the Church: We are actually called by God to rebel against working on Sundays and other days of rest. Why? Because we need to spend that time with Jesus quietly being restored and re-energized.



Unfortunately, Jesus doesn't walk through the door and circle dates on our calendar and write "Rest with Jesus" on it so that we can plan ahead. We have to follow his lead at a moment's notice – every moment. To experience the kingdom of God on the earthly side of heaven, we have to be willing to drop everything to follow Jesus into unfamiliar places at unexpected times. We have to learn to follow his lead even in situations where his way is the surprising way.

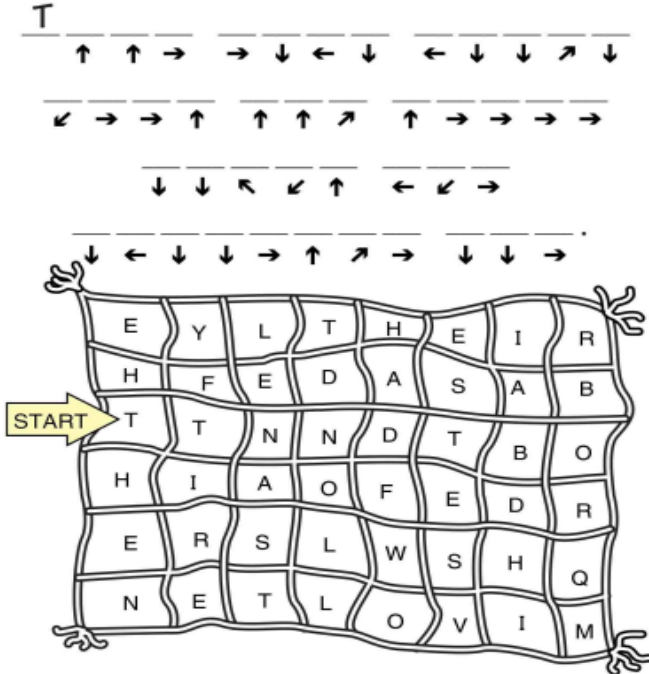
Reflect & Discuss:

- † What's on your to-do list? What keeps you busy? What are your goals for the future? What are you dreaming of?
- † If Jesus has a different plan for your day or for your life, how easily could you switch over to new ideas and plans?
- † What are some of the nets you've abandoned in the past in order to follow Jesus? How difficult was that to do?
- † Are you happy about it now? Why? How was this an experience of the kingdom of God on earth?

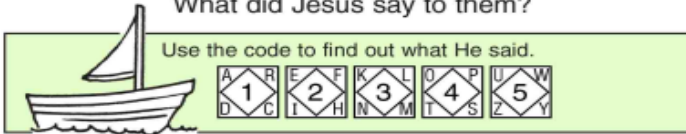


Jesus called the four fishermen to follow Him.
What did they do?

Follow the arrows from letter to letter to fill the blanks.



Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee. He saw Simon and Andrew casting their nets into the lake. What did Jesus say to them?



Use the code to find out what He said.



" 2 4 3 3 4 5 3 2 "

1 3 1 2 5 2 3 3

3 1 3 2 5 4 5



2 2 4 2

2 4 1

4 2 4 4 3 2



Children's Worship Bulletin™

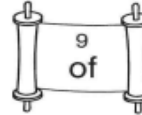
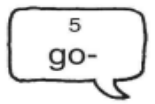
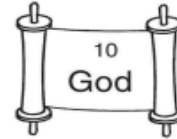
Ages 7+

January 21, 2024 • Mark 1:14-20

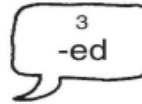
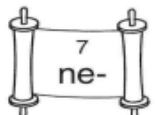
The Calling of the First Disciples

Jesus went to Galilee. What did He do there?

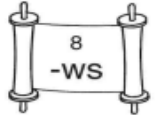
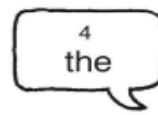
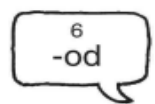
Write the letters from the speech bubbles and scrolls on the lines to find the answer.



1 2 3 4



5 6 7 8 9 10



Jesus went a little farther and found two more fishermen in a boat with their father, Zebedee. Who were they?

Use the answer graph to find out who they were.

	A	P	N	I
	G	H	M	O
	E	J	T	S



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