# Celebrate! Catholic Schools









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

VERY REV. MSGR. 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 Kathleen O'Leary, Receptionist/Baptism Coordinator Caroline Chase, Receptionist/Bulletin Editor Ayse Kenner, Mass Intentions Alison Fram, Director of Young Adult & Family Ministries/Social Action Ministries 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 Kirn 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 Joyce Kelly, S.P.R.E.D. Coordinator

#### CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454-2415 or mmtumer@ccda.net



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 R.E. OFFICE: (703) 455-0372 R.E. 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. Monthly Sensory Mass on the second Sunday of every month at the 1:00pm Mass

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 Msgr. 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.

Not only did the city walls of Jerusalem need to be rebuilt, but the people themselves had to be rebuilt into a community. Although blessed with a beautiful campus and recently built facilities, the church is more than buildings. We are the people of God.

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. At the end of Mass we are sent out into the world to love and serve the Lord and one another.

Love and blessings,

Bul Cilinski Msgr. Bob Cilinski Pastor

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#### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Thank You from the Nativity Craft Group

With the generous support of our wonderful Nativity community, the Craft Group was able to donate to charities and support groups in our area. Your contributions and faithful support of our bazaar have made a great difference in the lives of many.

The Craft Group is always open to new members who enjoy learning new things, great fellowship and a great time creating lovely items. All items produced are sold at the annual Nativity Christmas Bazaar to support the needy in our area. 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







#### SCOUT SUNDAY & PANCAKE BREAKFAST FEBRUARY 2nd - 9:00AM MASS

Nativity Scout Sunday will be celebrated on February 2nd at the 9:00 am Mass. All Scouts (from Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and other scouting programs) 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 8:40 am 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.

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Following the 9:00 am Mass, Troop 1100 and the Knights of Columbus will host a special Pancake Breakfast in the cafeteria for just \$5/person or \$20/family. Please contact your Scout leaders or Ryan Hovatter at 301-481-5294 for more information.



#### APPALACHIA HOME BUILDING SPECIAL COLLECTION - THIS WEEKEND

On the weekend of January 25/26, 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 24 years, the Nativity Knights and Nativity Parish have partnered with the Appalachian Construction Crew operating out of Bellevue, Nebraska, to build one home 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 \$110,000 to build the home. Last year, the three-bedroom home cost \$103,000. 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 Perry family. The family had a total income of approximately \$21,000 and the family of two lived with the father's parents.

We are trying to exceed our past collection efforts to reach \$120,000. We have added approximately \$20,000 to our goal to expand our outreach efforts in the county to help more families in addition to the family receiving their new home. Our outreach efforts will include hygiene kits for ~270 children; help with home repairs; and vouchers to help with utility and medical bills.

This year Good Shepherd Chapel in Whitley City selected the Tucker family of three to receive Nativity's 27th home. The grandmother is raising two teenage grandchildren. The new home will be built on a lot next to the trailer they are renting. The family's total income is \$30,500. Over a very compressed two weeks in June, the combined crews will build a 1,100SF, three-bedroom home, complete with porches, heating/AC, and appliances--the family assists if they are able. This will be our first home that connects directly to the city sewer system and will not require a septic system. 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 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 call Bob Corsi at 703-239-2890 if you have any questions or email him at bobcorsi@cox.net.

PLEASE HELP US, THANK YOU!!





#### St. Lucy Winter Food Drive: Saturday, February 8th from 9:00AM-1:00PM

The St. Lucy Winter Food Drive will take place from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday, 8 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 previous food drives). 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 any 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 1-2 February, please join us in the narthex after Communion. If you have questions, please email the St. Lucy Team at nativity.stlucyteam@gmail.com.



#### The Holy Year 2025 — Pilgrims of Hope

To learn more about the Jubilee Year and for various resources including a calendar of events, plenary indulgence information, the official Jubilee Hymn and Prayer, and more, visit: <a href="https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/holy-year-2025/">https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/holy-year-2025/</a>. There you can also find a link to download the official Jubilee App "Iubilaeum25."

## THIS LENT, JOIN THE DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON FOR AN ENLIVENING JOURNEY TO THE HEART OF JESUS! A HOLY PEOPLE: LIVING THE SCRIPTURAL AND

HOLY PEOPLE: LIVING THE SCRIPTURAL AND SOCIAL TEACHING OF OUR FAITH

How can we faithfully follow Jesus Christ, loving the Lord with all our heart, soul & mind and our neighbor as ourselves? This adult faith formation series shows the way through Prayer, Scripture, the Beatitudes, and the rich Social Teaching of the Catholic Church.

Topics for this prayerful, guided interactive in-person faith program formation series includes:

- Holiness: The Heart of Catholic Social Teaching
- The Great Commandment and Human Dignity
- What is Social Sin and how should we respond?

When: 5 Tuesdays in Lent starting March 11 - ending April 8 at 7:30pm Where: Cathedral of St. Thomas More, Burke Hall, 3901 Cathedral Lane, Arlington, VA 22203. We are excited to see you as we walk this journey together. As the Lord said, "Come and See!"

#### St. Joseph Consecration: Save the Date, February 11th - Come and see!



Come to understand how St. Joseph is a model of faith, patience, obedience, and courage. Learn how St. Joseph was loving and faithful to his wife, his family, and to God. Read how he was patiently obedient to the will of God in his life. Imagine the courage he had as he cared for the Son of God and his blessed mother.

St. Joseph is truly the model for us as we strive to be the strongest family we can be. The Consecration to St. Joseph is a Fr. Calloway, MIC, 33 Days retreat focused on the life and wonders of our Spiritual Father.

The program features 6 Zoom meetings on Tuesday evenings from 7:45 PM to 9:00 PM. The program concludes with a total consecration to St. Joseph on March 23rd. For more information and to register, visit the Nativity Web site at:

https://nativityburke.org/33 -day-retreat/ or contact Mark Pizzo at 33DayConsecration@nativityburke.org.

#### ALTAR FLOWERS - Donated by

The Pannoni Family
In Loving Memory of
Lisa Pannoni
and
Mr. Tom Snee
In Loving Memory of
Karen Snee



#### ECHO Collection NEXT weekend Food Room Most Needed Items

ECHO's Food Room continues to break records. We collected 945lbs at the beginning of January.

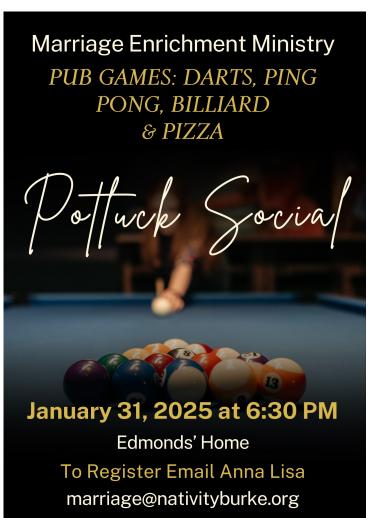
- Choose sizes appropriate for our average family size of four.
- Include an assortment of food to ensure a variety of items.
- We are short on many other items such as personal care products and the items listed below.

#### ECHO's policy is to not give expired, open or repackaged food to clients. PLEASE do not bring these items or glass jars!!

Protein Items, e.g., can chicken, Spam, chili, Tin Fish (tuna, sardines, salmon, etc.), Canned Fruit, Bagged Beans (black, red, or garbanzo preferred), Lentils, Spaghetti (pasta and sauce) Instant and Ground Coffee, Canned Tomatoes, Tomato (paste and Tomato Sauce), Baked Beans, Bagged Rice (white, jasmine or basmati), Instant (Box) Potatoes, Crackers, Ramen, Can milk, shelf stable milk, Boxed Pasta, Juice (Bottles or box), Tea (Green, Herbal or Black), Healthy Snacks, Spices (garlic, onion, cinnamon, salt, pepper), Masa (Corn) Flour, Boxed cereal, Lemon or Lime Juice, Jelly and Honey, Tortillas, Cooking Oil, Brown Paper Bags, Reusable Grocery Bags.
Children's Toothbrushes, Laundry Detergent, Toilet Paper, Deodorant, Shampoo, Facial Tissues, Dish Soap, Paper Towels

Body/Hand Lotion, Band Aids, Shaving Cream/Razors, Diapers

- Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Baby Wipes, Sanitary Napkins.







## Support the Collection for the Church in Latin America

In the 13th century, St. Francis and St. Clare said yes to the Lord's call to renew the Church in Assisi, Italy, through lives of prayer, peace, and love for the poor. Their example inspired the men and women of their time to embrace the Gospel and dedicate their lives to God as religious brothers and sisters.

Nearly 800 years later, women continue to answer God's call following St. Clare's example by taking up lives of prayer at the Monastery of St. Clare in the Dominican Republic. Women who enter the monastery begin a formation process that encompasses prayer, study, and adaptation to separation from the world in a cloistered community. With funding through the Collection for the Church in Latin America, the monastery has been able to cover the food, clothing, and educational expenses for 18 sisters in various stages of formation.

Vocations to religious life are fulfilled through the prayers and contributions that sustain men and women religious in their mission. Helping the sisters at the Monastery of Saint Clare say yes to God's call is just one of the many positive impacts made by your support for the Collection for the Church in Latin America in strengthening the relationship between Catholics in the United States and those in Latin America and the Caribbean.

For more information about how donations help the Church in Latin America, visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

#### 2023 CLA Financials

**Expenses** 

Grants and Donations: 77.60%

Program Costs: 7.91%

Allocations—Internal Grants: 8.22%

Promotions and Fundraising Expenses: 4.66%

Administrative Expenses: 1.61%

Total Expenses: \$5,725,947

Total Number of Grants Approved: 252 Total Amount Approved: \$6,227,608



Formation of Clergy and Religious, and Vocations: 19.44%

Emergency Disaster Funds: 27.56%



\*Includes evangelization, religious education, family, and other pastoral ministries



#### ST. LUCY FOOD DRIVE



Feeding the Hungry; Nourishing the Soul

# PLEASE DONATE

---- SATURDAY, FEB 8th | 9AM-1PM ----

Nativity Parish Parking Lot

A "Drive-By/Drop-Off" food drive Please place your donations in your trunk

#### FOOD ITEMS MOST NEEDED

Canned Meat (tuna and chicken)
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Pasta & Pasta Sauce
Canned Pasta (ravioli)
Hearty Soups
Cereal & Oatmeal
Canned Veggies
Canned Fruit

#### Please no glass containers

DRIVE UP AND DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS! THE ST. LUCY TEAM WILL ASSIST YOU!

GIFT CARDS AND MONETARY GIFTS ALSO ACCEPTED
Checks can be made out to "CCDA" with "The St. Lucy Project" in the memo

Love working with children? Want flexibility? Consider becoming a Recess Monitor at Nativity School Part-Time Recess Help Needed



#### Monday - Friday from Approx. 11:30 am - 1:15 pm

We are in need of responsible adults with the following minimum qualifications to monitor children while eating lunch and at recess:

- Ability to follow directions and communicate effectively.
- Proficiency in maintaining control in a group environment.
- Compliant within the Diocese.
- Successful background check.

To apply, email Rich Godwin at rgodwin@nativityschool.org, or call him at (703) 455-2300, ext.146.







#### **MASS INTENTIONS & MASS SCHEDULE**

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

Monday, January 27th

7:30 am † Dennis Ford

Tuesday, January 28th

7:30 am † Mary McCarthy Sedlak † Thomas McNamara 12:00 pm

Wednesday, January 29th

7:30 am † John Olsovsky Sr.

Thursday, January 30th

Special Intention for Marilyn Kamm 7:30 am

12:00 pm † George Kebles

Friday, January 31st

7:30 am † Joseph Anthony Grillo

9:00 am Special Intention for Ashley Ackerman

Saturday, February 1st

† Deceased members of the Licud Family † The Bellitto Family 9:00 am

5:00 pm

7:00 pm Special Intention for Emilio Olivera

Sunday, February 2nd

7:00 am † Jairo Gustavo Vargas 9:00 am † Carlota Buhain

11:00 am Special Intention for Monica Shia Family

Parishioners 1:00 pm 5:30 pm † Diane Bayne

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

Did you receive a Christmas gift that you will never use? I would love to take it off your hands! I am collecting new items to use as prizes for Nativity's senior bingo on January 30th.

Donations can be dropped off at the school office.

For more information contact Mrs. McGuire at 703-455-2300 ext. 145.

#### WHEN ALL THE HUSTLE-BUSTLE OF THE HOLIDAYS ARE OVER .....

Don't you and your spouse deserve a beautiful, romantic weekend away together? If you agree then you'll want to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend.

For more information or to register, go to WWME.org, click "Apply" and search for your desired location. Feel free to contact Donald and Helen Dudley at donald.helen.dudley@wwme.org with any questions. Here are a few upcoming experiences:

January 31 - February 2: Myrtle Beach, SC

March 7 - 9: Rehoboth Beach, DE

March 14-16: Jessup, MD and Ocean City, NJ

March 21-23: Emerald Isle, NC





#### Pray the Pro-Life Rosary with Us!



When: Usually Fridays after Nativity's 7:30am Mass. Where: 900 S. Washington Street, Falls Church. Join Nativity in peacefully praying the Pro-Life Rosary on the sidewalk in front of the Falls Church abortion facility for mothers in need and for the protection of human life.



#### A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Fairfax County's Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination provides a wealth of resources for county residents, businesses and organizations. Their mission statement: "OEEC improves quality of life in Fairfax County for all by advancing climate action to reduce emissions, building community resilience and adaptation, preserving natural resources, and promoting sustainability."

In the section provided for residents, you can find the Fairfax County Climate Action Checklist: an interactive checklist designed to help you track your progress in adopting sustainable habits and making environmentally conscious choices that can also save you money. This Excel spreadsheet offers a list of 70+ individual actions you can take, along with their cost and savings in both money and carbon emissions. Checkboxes help you keep track of what you've already done and how your savings add up. There are also links to incentives and resources to make taking actions cheaper and easier. Check it out for actions you can take in 2025 to help protect God's Creation.

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS! WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Want to help make a positive impact to support marriages and families? Please help the Marriage Enrichment Ministry with Child Care and/or clean-up on our next date night on **Saturday**, **February 15**.



Please email Anna Lisa at marriage@nativityburke.org for more information.





# SENIOR BINGO

IN HONOR OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK, NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL IS HOSTING A SENIOR BINGO.

ALL SENIOR CITIZENS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 30TH IN THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA. 10:00 AM STARTS MINGLE TIME WITH BINGO TIME TO FOLLOW FROM 10:30 TO 11:30 AM.

LITE SNACKS AND DRINKS WILL BE SERVED. PLEASE RSVP TO MRS. CHAPMAN AT 703-455-2300.



Every girl is part of God's Royal Household—and God's Princesses, a new series from the creators of Brother Francis, brings this truth to life through fun, faith-filled stories.

NOW ON FORMED: NATIVITY PARISH CODE M4CJ3W



#### TICKETS GO ON SALE FEB. 3rd! **Secure Your Spot and Early Bird Pricing (\$65)**

Seated Dinner • Open Bar • Pirate Mystery • Costume Contest Photo Booth • Live & Silent Auction • Class Basket Raffle • 50/50 Raffle • Heads or Tails

#### All hands on deck -Donate Today!

We can't make our Gala great without sponsors and donations. Great treasures to donate include: Restaurant gift cards, Performing arts or sports tickets, Personal services, Spa gift cards, Vacation home rentals etc.

For more information check out the QR code. ♣ Follow us on Instagram: @nativitystarsgala

#### PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC)

We are a social group, mostly aged 60 and over. (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate-membership group.) Come on out with us to: a comedy play at Jefferson Community Theatre (Feb. 2); square dancing (Feb. 4, 11, 18, 24); walk at Brenman Park (Feb. 6); dining-out in Shirlington (Feb. 9); Thursday lunches (Feb. 13, 27); Valentine's Day dance (Feb. 14); guided tour of George Washington's Alexandria (Feb. 16); movie/ dinner in Fairfax (Feb. 19); visit to St. Thomas More Cathedral/ lunch (Feb. 21); preparing/serving meal at Christ House (Feb. 22). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.



#### Thank You for Your **Generous Support!**

Dear Nativity Family, We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to our mission. Your

generosity and prayers mean the world to us and have brought us closer to achieving our goals. While we did not reach our overall goal, we are deeply humbled by the outpouring of generosity and support we have received, every single donation has made a significant impact. Thanks to your kindness, we can continue to bring hope, healing, and support to those in need. Your contributions are a beautiful testament to your faith and compassion. Please know how deeply we appreciate your support as we move forward in our missions.

Thank you for being a part of this journey with us. Together, we are making a difference. With gratitude,

Sister Donatella Merulla and Sister Mary Attilia Todaro



handmaidsofthereparation.org



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



A one-act play that clowns around with the Greek myths!

Presented by The Nativity Players Theatre Ministry

🧰 Friday, Feb. 7 & Saturday, Feb. 8 🔑 7:30pm FREE ADMISSION!! • FATHER MARTIN CENTER



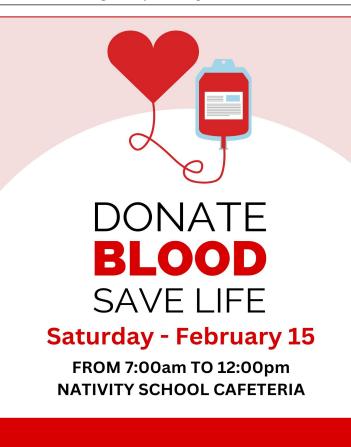
Meet our new Director of Theatre Ministry! Find out about our summer show, Fiddler on the Roof!

Email theater@nativityburke.org for more information

#### 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.



#### In CONJUCTION with INOVA Blood Service

#### NO HANDS BUT YOURS MINISTRY



No Hands But Yours is 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 DC and northern VA every Sunday morning, rain or shine.

We also have weekly trips into designated areas bringing Panera bread donations along with help from local food banks. Through the blessings of God, we have grown through our Nativity community and continue to do so. For more details visit the Nativity Parish website at https://nativityburke.org/service/no-hands-but-yours/. Families are also welcomed! If you have interest in learning more and would like to participate in daily/Sunday runs, please contact John Rubino at: john.albert.rubino@gmail.com.

## CONNECT WITH NATIVITY BY DOWNLOADING THE FREE myParish APP





Nativity Parishioners can keep up to date with church events and notifications but you can also have access to prayers, readings, and reflections on your phone at all times.

This first-of-its-kind app for iOS and Android devices, myParish helps build stronger Catholic communities and better engage the New Evangelization.

You can download it for free and just add Nativity Catholic Church, Burke VA in the search field for our parish. If you have any questions please call the parish office.

#### THE CORNERSTONE CHOIR IS LOOKING FOR SINGERS

No audition or prior experience necessary - All are welcome!
We sing at the 5:30pm Mass every Sunday.
Please contact Mina Lee at Mina.wonn@gmail.com
for more information.



# Nativity Catholic Church EMAIL SCAM ALERT Nativity parishioners, please be aware of email scammers posing as Nativity priests. If you receive an email from any Nativity clergy urgently asking you for favors or money, this is a scam. Please ignore and block the sender. If you have any questions, please call the Nativity Parish office: (703) 455-2400

Historically, scammers have posed as Father Bob, now they are posing as our other Nativity priests.





Save the Date Loyola on the Potomac Men's Retreat March 14 - 16

Come join men from our parish and surrounding parishes quiet weekend of spiritual renewal at the Loyola Jesuit retreat house, high on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River in Faulkner, MD. This year's guided retreat theme is "Lead Me, Lord". The retreat starts on Friday March 14th, after 4:00pm, and finishes after lunch on Sunday, March 16th. The food is great and the sunsets over the river are spectacular. Discounts are available for those 35 and under and first-time retreatants. For more information visit www.loyolaonthepotomac.com or call Nativity parishioner Richard Fanelli at 703-587-0466.

#### **Pro-Life Corner**



Virginia Pro-Life Day in Richmond – Wednesday, Jan 29, 2025: Support Life issues and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow parishioners across the state. Your personal presence is vital in supporting pro-life

members of the General Assembly or encouraging those who have voted against pro-life bills in the past to reconsider their views. Contact rickloffredo@outlook.com for carpooling. Register at vaprolifeday.org.



**Defund Planned Parenthood:** Planned Parenthood was funded \$750 Million by the federal government that directly caused the violent deaths of ~ 400,000 innocent preborn children last year. See 40 Days for Life initiative at defundplannedparenthood.com **Tepeyac Pro-Life OB/GYN: Faith-based Pro-life OB/GYN:** restoring integrity of human person with modern medicine and healing of Christ. tepeyacobgyn.com, 703.273.9440.

Gabriel Project - Pregnancy Outreach for Expectant Mothers: Offers emotional, spiritual, material, and financial support through a pregnancy helpline and parish-based volunteer "Angel" Support, helpforpregnantwomen.org, 866.444.3553.

A Woman's Choice Center - Providing Compassionate Support: Free pregnancy, medical, educational, and support services for women and families, awomanschoicecenter.com, 703.538.4305.

Mary's Comfort of VA: Ensuring Expectant Mothers Shelter, Support and New Beginnings: Provides full support, including training in parenting and life skills, career coaching and educational advancement, maryscomfortva.org, 703.455.4500.



St. Margaret of Cortona - Transitional and Maternity Housing: Helping single mothers in exceptionally difficult circumstances: Assisting mothers with children who may be transitioning from homeless and domestic violence shelters to independent living; and Assisting women pregnant with their first child or pregnant moms who already have other children and find themselves at significant risk in their current living situations. https://www.ccda.net/need-help/housing/family-housing-(st--margaret)/, or call 703.910.4845.

Mary's Shelter: Sheltering Women and Their Children: Provides an expectant mother, and any additional children she may have, with housing for up to three years in order to further her education and/or secure employment. https://marysshelterva.org/, 540.374.3407.

**Catholic Charities Pregnancy and Adoption Services:** 

Provides transformative services to individuals, couples and families whose lives are impacted by unplanned pregnancy, parenting in a crisis situation and/or whose lives have been touched by adoption. https://www.ccda.net/need-help/pregnancy-and-adoption-services/, 703.841.3830

**Project Rachel: Help after Abortion:** A safe place to share your emotions and work toward healing. For confidential inquiries and to learn more. helpafterabortion.org, 703.841.2504.

Rachel's Vineyard - A safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem broken hearts: Weekend retreats offer you a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment. www.rachelsvineyard.org/, 877.467.3463.

Marian Homes: Purchases and maintains affordable homes for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Visit: marianhomes.org/

Nativity Catholic Church

# Worship Watch Training

Msgr. Bob invites all **Ushers & Sacristans** to attend a training session that will cover the foundation for establishing a security team, reporting crimes, honing observation skills, and becoming a reliable witness

Date: Monday, February 24 | 6:30 pm

Where: Nativity School Cafeteria

**Sponsors**: Nativity Ecumenical Ministry &

the Fairfax County Police Department

**RSVP Today!** 

nativityburke.org/worship-watch







#### NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nativity A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence nativityschool.org



#### Join Us ~~ OPEN HOUSE ~~ **During Catholic Schools Week** Sunday, January 26 \* 10:00 AM - 12 NOON

Let's Talk About a Seat for Your Child ~~ For details, contact Shannon Murphy at (703) 455-2300, or 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 on Sunday, January 26, 2025, with a School Mass at 9:00 am, and a School OPEN HOUSE at 10:00 am.

A week packed FULL of events will follow for folks of all ages, i.e., Monday afternoon's Middle School Spelling Bee; Tuesday's Parent Breakfast followed by classroom visits; Wednesday's Middle School Vocations Talk with our Religious Team, and an afternoon Band Concert; on Thursday, Senior Bingo is followed by a Military/Community Personnel Assembly, and then we hold Honor Society Inductions right after our morning Mass. We finish up the week with a FREE LUNCH for all students!

Join us at Nativity to see how your child would spend his or her days here -- learning, praying, sharing, loving, and laughing. Contact Shannon Murphy at smurph@nativityschool.org, or (703) 455-2300, for information about our school. We would love to hear from you. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Important Upcoming Dates ~~**

Sunday, Jan 26 – Catholic Schools Week Begins

Monday, Jan 27 – Spelling Bee, 2:15 PM

Tuesday, Jan 28 – Parent Breakfast/Class Visits

Wednesday, Jan 29 – Vocations Talk, Middle School

Wednesday, Jan 29 –Band Concert, 2:00 PM

Thursday, Jan 30 – Senior Bingo, 10:30 AM

Thursday, Jan 30 – Military/Emergency Personnel Event

Friday, Jan 31 – Free Lunch for All Students

Friday, Jan 31 – Mass with Honor Society Induction

Saturday, Feb 1 – PTO Multicultural Event, 6:00-9:00 PM

#### CONTRACTORS NEEDED

NO PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE NECESSARY







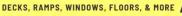


For more information, visit arlingtondiocese.org/workcam



WorkCamp is a week-long service opportunity for youth of our Parish to serve those in need throughout the Diocese. We are seeking people with home repair and maintenance skills who are willing to commit some of their time and talents to teaching young people and improving the lives of fellow Virginians in need.

JUNE 21-27 IN QUICKSBURG, VA











Linktree Universal Sign-up Link - Volunteer for an event! Scroll down to view all event. https://linktr.ee/fr\_sikora\_council\_7992.

**Council Meetings:** 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. First meeting is a business meeting, the second meeting of the month is devoted to faith formation. Rosary 7:15PM; meeting at 7:30PM. 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

St. Lucy Food Drive: Bag distribution after Mass February 1-2, collection on Saturday February 8. See SUG on LinkTree. **Blood Drive:** Saturday, Feb. 15 from 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Nativity school cafeteria, in conjunction with INOVA Blood Service. Currently, less than 38% of our population is eligible to donate blood. Signups are pending. **Donut Sunday:** February 16 - We need recruiters and

servers. See SUGs on LinkTree.

Financial Readiness Seminar: February 18 at 7:00 PM in cafeteria. All are invited to better understand the benefits available to Catholics through the Knights of Columbus. This event is open to the entire community. See SUG on LinkTree. Food for Others: Volunteer for food distribution to the poor,

delivered on designated Thursday or Friday evenings. For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net. Fridays, contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock w@yahoo.com. Deliver food from Giant to the FFO warehouse Tuesday mornings; contact

Br. Bob Colella robert.colella.86@gmail.com.

Name Tags: If you have not received your name tag, email Warden Steve Resch at warden 7992@nativityburke.org. Nativity Ushers assist at collections: Volunteer for your Mass! Volunteer on Link Tree for a database of potential helpers! Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies: We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. See Linktree. Handy Knights Ministry: Parishioners unable to perform basic maintenance tasks or small home repairs due to health or other

factors, contact the "Handy Knights."

Email handyknightsofnativity@gmail.com.

The Fraternal Committee: Brothers helping brothers in need of assistance. Brothers and their families (living and deceased) 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 Mark Corzine 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 at https://www.kofc.org/joinus. Your dues will be free for one year: Be sure to enter our council #7992 and the code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY when you register. Please email our Deputy Grand Knight, Michael Bender, at dgk7992@nativityburke.org or the Grand Knight, Chris Odell

#### ALTAR FLOWERS

at gk7992@nativityburke.org with any questions.

The Altar Flower Book for 2025 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/.

# a dozen reasons to choose Catholic Schools

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12 1

Catholic Schools

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Join us for an informative live presentation from The Knights of Columbus. Learn about insurance and other financial products from an organization that is aligned with your faith.

#### All are invited

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Catholics through the Knights of Columbus. This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to learn and to enjoy good company during the social! It is open to the entire community.

Our agency has been a consistent high performer for the Knights of Columbus and its members, offers the knowledge and experience to help you best leverage our insurance products<sup>1</sup> and fraternal benefits.

The Knights of Columbus has once again earned AM Best's A+ (Superior) Rating for Financial Strength\*.

In addition, Knights of Columbus was designated by Forbes as one of "America's Best Insurance Companies"<sup>2</sup>
and Standard & Poor's ranked us among the strongest life insurers financially in North America<sup>3</sup>.

'As of December 2022

# Tues, Feb 18, 2025. 7PM Nativity Church, Cafeteria

Scan the QR Code to register →

\*An excellent opportunity for young & old to learn & discuss financial planning!



No purchase necessary.



You will also learn about how Catholics now have an opportunity to work with Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors (KoCAA) through one of our **Financial Advisors**.

### Secular Carmelite Community of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

# Day of Recollection

February 15th, 2025 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Registration: 8:30 am Mass: 9:00 am to 9:30 am Refreshments

Br. John-Mary Winter, OCD



FEE: \$20 To register and pay - Contact Jackie:

theresetreasurer@gmail.com

\$25 at the door

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For more information contact: 202 365 9197 skoucheravy56@gmail.com 571 332 3944 veronicaroyal@icloud.com

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featuring



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Laura Phelps Author and Speaker



Sister Mary Elizabeth Albers, SOLT Vocations Servant, SOLT

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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 ocultados 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 pacifico 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 investigarlo 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 trasmitirlos 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.

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



n el siglo XIII, San Francisco y Santa Clara respondieron con un sí al llamado del Señor para renovar la Iglesia en Asís, Italia, por medio de una vida de oración, paz y amor por los pobres. Su ejemplo inspiró a los hombres y mujeres de esos tiempos a comprometerse con el Evangelio y dedicar su vida a Dios como hermanas y hermanos religiosos.

Casi 800 años más tarde, vemos mujeres que continúan respondiendo al llamado de Dios para seguir el ejemplo de Santa Clara llevando una vida de oración en el Monasterio de Santa Clara en la República Dominicana. Las mujeres que ingresan al monasterio empiezan un proceso de formación que incluye la oración y el estudio y una adaptación para separarse del mundo dentro del claustro de su comunidad. Gracias a los fondos que le brinda la Colecta para la Iglesia en América Latina, el monasterio ha podido cubrir los gastos de alimentación, ropa y educación de 18 hermanas, quienes están en diversas etapas de formación.

Las vocaciones a la vida religiosa se cumplen gracias a las oraciones y contribuciones que sostienen a los religiosos y religiosas en su misión. Ayudar a las hermanas del Monasterio de Santa Clara para que respondan con un sí al llamado del Señor, es solo uno de los muchos impactos positivos que usted hace al contribuir a la Colecta para la Iglesia en América Latina, ayudando a fortalecer la relación entre los católicos en Estados Unidos y aquellos en América Latina y el Caribe.

Para más información acerca de la Colecta para la Iglesia en América Latina, visiten www.usccb.org/latin-america.

#### Datos Financieros de CLA 2023

Gastos

Subvenciones y donaciones: 77.60%

Costos del programa: 7.91%

Asignaciones—subvenciones internas: 8.22%

Gastos de promoción y recaudación de fondos: 4.66%

Gastos administrativos: 1.61%

Total de gastos: \$5,725,947

Número total de subvenciones aprobadas: 252 Cantidad total aprobada: \$6,227,608

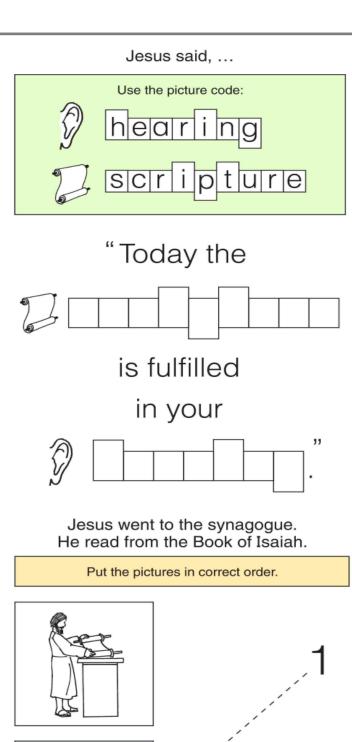
Pastoral\*: 53.00%

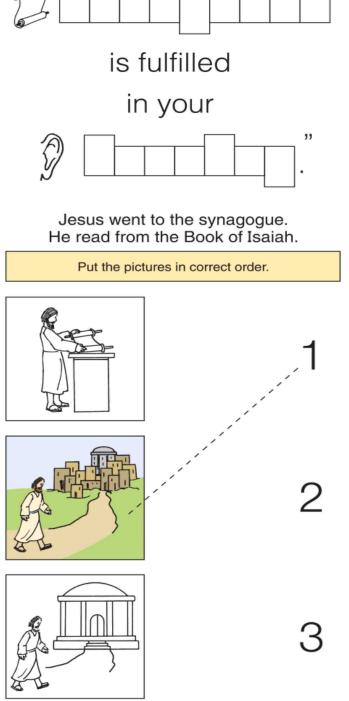
Formación del clero, religiosos y vocaciones: 19.44%

Fondos de emergencia para desastres: 27.56%



<sup>\*</sup>Incluye evangelización, educación religiosa, pastoral familiar y otros ministerios

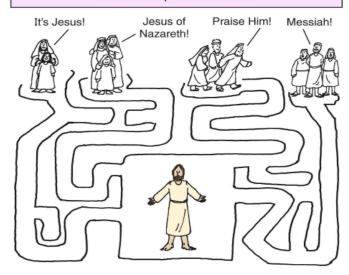






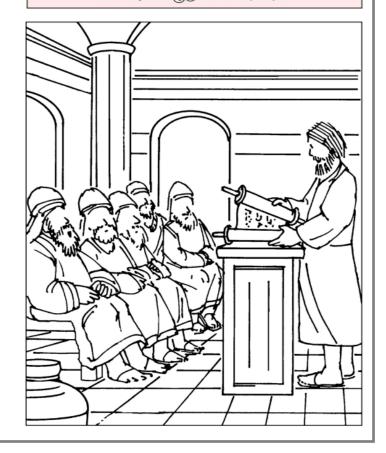
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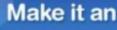
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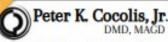
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