

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



*"Rejoice and be glad, your reward will be great in heaven."
~ Matt. 5:12*

My dear parishioners,

Music has a central place in the life of Nativity parish. We have Summer Musicals and Winter Cabarets. Our sacred music has an essential place in our liturgies. What a gift to have such beautiful music and singing at our Sunday Masses. I am so grateful to Debbie Doyle and Carole Fischl our Directors of Sacred Music, to the directors of our various choirs both English and Spanish, to the members of the choirs from the children, to our teenagers, and adults who sacrifice their time in the many hours of rehearsals to lead our community in singing and joyful song to the Lord.

The following reflection was written by a Pastoral Musician using the Beatitudes as an inspiration. We can all reflect on these words in our ministries within the parish.

I rejoice this Catholic Schools Week in the gift of our Nativity School where *"every child is loved."* I am so proud of our students, dedicated teachers, staff, and involved parents. Our students excel in academics, virtues, service, and faith. A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence!!!!

Love and Blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski
Fr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

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

**On This Date in Nativity History
March 1974**

In March 1974, Nativity offered its first funeral Mass; the presider was Father Frank Ready. The deceased was James Robert Heiberg, age 77. Mr. Heiberg was a widower; his wife, Alice, had preceded him in death in 1955. They had one son, James Edward Heiberg. The date of his death was March 18, 1974; the exact date of the funeral was not recorded.

Mr. Heiberg was born March 11, 1894, in Brooklyn (Kings County), New York. His parents were John Christian and Mary (Erickson) Heiberg. Mr. Heiberg served in the New York State National Guard during World War I. Prior to his retirement he worked in railroad maintenance. At the time of his death, he was a resident at the Woodbine Nursing Home in Alexandria, Virginia. In these early days, funeral Masses were offered at St. Mary's Church. Burial was at Fairfax Memory Gardens. From that date to early June 2022, Nativity has offered 1,807 funeral Masses.

This historical note is the 34th of a weekly Bulletin feature leading up to Nativity's fiftieth anniversary, 11 June 2023.

**Nativity Catholic Church
A Spirituality for Relationships**

NATIVITY PARISH MISSION 2023

You and your family are invited to four evening talks by Father Simeon Gallagher, OFM Cap, here at Nativity from February 13 - 16 at 7:00 pm. Mark your calendars!

Learn More Online:
nativityburke.org/2023-parish-mission/

REFLECTION

Do you have a job, or do you have a calling? There are times when we get caught in the mundane or difficult aspects of our ministry and can't see the moments of grace. But if Jesus were to sit down with us on a mountain slope and talk to us as pastoral musicians, he might say something like this:

"Blessed are you who sing psalms, for you have words to call on the LORD.

Blessed are you who play instruments, for you will hear God in gentle rubato and great sforzando.

Blessed are you who compose, for you are like the prophet, explaining the mysteries of God.

Blessed are you who teach, for you are passing on the prayer of music to others.

Blessed are you who practice diligently, for you know the peace of being prepared.

Blessed are you who give up holidays and weekends for the liturgy, for you shall inherit understanding family and friends.

Blessed are you who work for church wages, for you will know other riches.

Blessed are you who deal with many and different personalities in the parish and ensembles, for you shall inherit serenity and tact.

Blessed are you who help others to mourn through funerals, for you will inherit a great understanding of joy and hope in the resurrection. Blessed are you who work with weddings, for your reward will be great in heaven."

Prayer

O God, you continue to bless us in many ways. May we always have an open heart and mind to receive your great gifts. May we celebrate our calling with joy!

Jill Maria Murdy, St. Frances Cabrini Parish, West Bend, Wisconsin

2023 PARISH MISSION



This year our Parish Mission will be held from: **February 13-16, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. evening with Rev. Simeon Gallagher, OFM Cap**

Location: in the church

**The theme and daily topics are:
A Spirituality for Relationships**

- Monday - Sustaining Good Relationships - Faith
- Tuesday - Communication in Relationships - Prayer
- Wednesday - Breaking Relationships - Sin
- Thursday - Building Better Relationships - Grace

Fr. Simeon Gallagher, OFM Cap., is the Director of the Preaching Ministry Office of the Mid-America Province of the Capuchin Order. He conducts retreats, parish development programs, parish missions and religious education workshops.

His association with the Emmaus Spirituality Program for Priests has gained him an international reputation in conducting retreats for priests. His work has taken him to Central America (El Salvador). He was instrumental in founding Emmaus in Great Britain, and he has presented ecumenical lectures at the Jean XXIII Centre, Geneva, Switzerland. For the past several years, he has worked closely with the US Armed Forces at military bases around the world.

The Nativity Craft Group is in need of **NEW** yarn and fabric.

Please drop off any donations at the parish office or visit:

<https://nativityburke.org/craft-group/> for more information.

Monetary contributions are accepted as well. Make checks payable to Nativity Catholic Church and put **"Craft Group"** on the memo line. Please: no old yarn/fabric from attics or garages, NEW only!

Please pray for the five men (and their families) who were Ordained to the Permanent Diaconate on Saturday, January 28.

- MR. LINUS JOSEPH BARLOON II**
- MR. MARVIN JOHN MUHAT**
- MR. ROBIN WILLIAM SARDEGNA**
- MR. MARK STEPHEN SOBCZYNSKI**
- MR. MARK CHRISTOPHER VOORHEIS**

World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in the Church on Thursday, February 2, 2023, and in parishes over the weekend of February 4-5, 2023. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond

Rosary Ministry - all rosary makers are invited to join us

Join us on February 14th, from 1:00-3:00 PM in the Fr Ready Room for our Bead Party. If you have extra beads bring them. There will be sorting and bagging rosaries. The Legion of Mary has donated hundreds of beautiful, colorful, faceted beads to be made into rosaries. We need your skills!!

Come and help sort and become a part of this creative and fun project. Thank you for any time you can give us on February 14th! If you are interested in learning to make mission rosaries, you may register on the Nativity web site or contact us at rosaryministry@nativityburke.org

Our next monthly meeting will be on March 14th. We will be teaching specialty rosaries - one-decade rosaries and chaplets.

PILGRIMAGE

*St. John Paul II
National Shrine*

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH
10 AM - 5 PM**

**FOR ENGAGED AND MARRIED
COUPLES**

**3900 HAREWOOD RD NE,
WASHINGTON, DC 20017**

**RSVP to
marriage@nativityburke.org**

Teaching Opportunities in the Diocese

Explore teaching opportunities in one of the 37 elementary or 4 high schools serving 17,000 students in the 13 cities and counties in our diocese. Our schools are seeking highly-qualified, faith-filled and dynamic professionals.

Find the perfect opportunity. <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/human-resources/employment-opportunities/>

REAL LIFE CHALLENGES,

REAL GOD SOLUTIONS

Thursdays 7:30-9:00pm in the Well

Feb 9 & 23 | Mar 9 & 23 | Apr 13

A new high school small group series for guys to grow in friendship and tackle life's toughest questions together.

Must be registered for Youth Ministry before attending



Dear parishioners,

On January 2, 2023 we began the sanctuary renovation of our church as part of our parish 50th Anniversary celebration. A large screen was erected to cover the sanctuary area during the renovation. A temporary altar and tabernacle has been placed in front of the screen for our prayer and worship. Daily and Sunday Mass will continue to be celebrated in the church. The renovation is scheduled to be completed by March 11, 2023.

WHAT ARE WE RENOVATING ?

THE SANCTUARY FLOOR: The current sanctuary floor is chipped and stained and cannot be restored. There is also an electrical outlet coming out of the steps with red tape as a caution to all. The new sanctuary floor will be a cream color marble floor with border inlets that will enhance the beauty and safety of the altar area.

THE ALTAR: The altar, on which is effected the Sacrifice of the Cross made present under sacramental signs, is also the table of the Lord to which the People of God gather to participate in the Mass, and it also is the center of the thanksgiving that is accomplished through the Eucharist. In every church there should be a fixed altar. The current altar of wood and stone does not line up with the center aisle and has electrical outlets coming out of it in the back. Since we are now going to have a marble floor, the new altar will be built with a dignified cherry stain wood and marble inlets to coordinate with the new marble floor. It will contain relics of various saints.

THE AMBO: The current ambo (pulpit) will be replaced by a cherry wood stain and marble ambo. The design of the new ambo will match the altar as a way of expressing the unity of the Word of God in the Scripture and the Word of God in the Eucharist. There is also a practical motivation for the design of the new pulpit. The current ambo provides little room for the lectionary and homily notes. We also must carry a step stool to the ambo when our children are reading. The renovated ambo will have a shelf for liturgical books and a step installed that can be pulled out when needed by a lector.

THE TABERNACLE: A principal feature of the renovation is the moving of the tabernacle to the center of the sanctuary underneath the Crucifix. This design placement calls attention to the centrality of the Eucharist in our faith. As Pope John Paul II said, *"We are the Church of the Eucharist."* Visually when you walk into the church, your eyes will be drawn to the Altar, Tabernacle and Crucifix in unity on the same axis in the center. These liturgical sacred items will be architecturally what they are spiritually, the axis of our lives.

PRESIDERS CHAIR: Another liturgical change after the Second Vatican Council was the use of the Presiders Chair for the principal prayers of the Mass. As such, we have designed a chair that fits the overall design of the sanctuary. It will be placed on the side wall where the current tabernacle is located. New chairs for the deacon and altar servers are being made. The current chairs are over 30 years old, have served us well, but are in need of an upgrade.

MOSAIC PANELS: We are adding seven mosaic panels on the right side of the church behind the choir section to echo the seven stained glass windows on the left. These mosaic panels will depict the Seven Corporal Works of Mercy, beautifully displaying Christ's command to care for those in need, a charism of Nativity parish. This will highlight the scripture from Matthew 25 when Jesus describes how we will be judged. It will be a teaching reminder to any who say: *"If its not on the final exam, I don't want to study it."* Pope Francis has called us *"to be a church for the poor."* These seven mosaics will also provide a balance visually in the church.... and in our lives.

The cost of this renovation is \$640,000. To date, through the generosity of parishioners, we have raised over half that amount. More are considering a pledge or using our monthly building envelope. If you would like to help contribute, please go to our parish website or call the parish office.

Blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski,
Pastor

YOU ARE
INVITED TO A
FELLOWSHIP
FOR ENGAGED &
NEWLYWED COUPLES

February 4th at 7 PM
Fr. Ready Room
Nativity Catholic Church
RSVP to marriage@nativityburke.org

ECHO Food Room Most Needed Items
February Collection will be next weekend, February 4/5

Choose sizes appropriate for an average family size of four. Include an assortment of food to ensure a variety of items for clients. We collected 1,232 lbs last month. Because of the wonderful generosity of the community, ECHO is blessed to already have a more than ample supply of canned pumpkin, cranberry sauce and stuffing. However, we are short on many other items such as personal care products and the items listed below. ECHO cannot give clients food whose expiration date is long past or any open food or repackaged food (no zip-loc bags).

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Condiments | Garlic Powder | Laundry Detergent |
| Masa Flour | Onion Powder | Shaving Cream/Razors |
| Lemon Juice | Hot Chocolate | Deodorant |
| Sugar | Tin Fish | Shampoo |
| Canned Fruit | Canned/Shelf Stable Milk | Toothbrushes (spec. kids) |
| Honey | Juice - Large Box/Bottles | Facial Tissues |
| Basmati Rice | Crackers | Feminine Hygiene |
| Pancake Syrup | Canned Meat (Spam is a favorite) | Products |
| Cinnamon | Laundry Detergent | Paper Towels |
| Instant Coffee | Band Aids | Brown Paper Grocery |
| Toilet paper | | Bags |

Virginia Defending Life Day & Virginia March for Life – Wednesday, Feb 1, 2023

Join Bishop Burbidge and us—your personal presence will powerfully support pro-life members of the Virginia General Assembly and encourages others to reconsider their views. We want our legislators to see that we expect them to pass life-affirming legislation. Bishop Burbidge, as the new Chair of the USCCB Pro-Life Committee, is keenly aware of how important this state-level representation is. Although this may be a bit out of the norm for you, we believe you will enjoy the comradery and find it empowering to stand up for this noble cause!

What's the plan?

6:30am Depart Nativity - 8:30am Gather at the Richmond Convention Center - 10:00am Senate and Delegate Meetings - 12:00pm March for Life Rally - 1:00pm Virginia March for Life - 2:00pm Depart Richmond - 4:00pm Return to Nativity

Don't worry! Should you be interested in talking, tips for effective advocacy, talking points and legislative updates will be provided by the organizers to make your day fun, easy, and successful. Please let us know if you tentatively plan to attend so sufficient travel arrangements can be made!

Simply sign up using Sign-Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4EACAC29A2F58-20231>
More details to follow. Please contact Rick and Linda Loffredo at rickloffredo@outlook.com if you have any questions.

The 2023 Bishop's Lenten Appeal



The 2023 BLA is underway! The BLA theme this year is *"My soul rejoices in the Lord,"* which is shared with the second preparatory year of the Diocesan Jubilee. After reflecting upon the blessings God has given you, please prayerfully consider a pledge. The BLA funds programs and ministries that serve thousands of people in our diocese. Through the inspiration of the BLA theme, let us joyfully make a pledge to support God's Kingdom in our diocese! You make a gift at: www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code.

ALTAR FLOWERS Donated by



The Reinhard Family
In Loving Memory of
Karl and Sheila Posh



SCOUT SUNDAY & PANCAKE BREAKFAST SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5th

Nativity Scout Sunday will be celebrated on February 5th 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 procession. 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. 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. Please contact your scout leaders or Sam Morthland at 703-455-2186 for more information.



MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, January 30th

7:30 am † John Rowley

Tuesday, January 31st

7:30 am † George Getek
12:00 pm Special Int. for Ashley Ackerman

Wednesday, February 1st

7:30 am † Anna Marie Brugnolotti
(Sunrise) 3:00 pm Special Int. for Father Hayes

Thursday, February 2nd

7:30 am † George Getek
12:00 pm † Mike Gibbons

Friday, February 3rd

7:30 am † Joseph & Mary Amato
9:00 am † Raymond Obregon Jr.

Saturday, February 4th

9:00 am Special Int. for Reena Rowe
5:00 pm † Spuria Family
7:00 pm † Marina Rivera

Sunday, February 5th

7:00 am † Lourdes Miquel
9:00 am † Sherry Oller
11:00 am Parishioners
1:00 pm † Luisa Vega
5:30 pm † Cyrilla Marie Mischanko

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - APPALACHIA HOME BUILDING UPDATE

Thank you for the tremendous outpouring of support to build Nativity's 25th home for the Creekmore Family. We are now at \$70,037 towards our goal of \$100,000. Donations can still be made either by mail or electronically. Checks should be made payable to Nativity Catholic Church and please annotate that it is for the Appalachia Home Building 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 want to mail your contribution, please send it to Nativity Catholic Church, 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA 22015. Please email Bob Corsi at bobcorsi@cox.net if you have any questions.



**CANCELLED FOR THIS WEEKEND
... WEEKEND IS DONUT SUNDAY**



FEBRUARY 1, 2023

DEFENDING LIFE DAY

Join us for our second annual Defending Life Day February 1st, 2023!

Richmond!

Join Bishop Burbidge and us for an exciting, full day of advocacy, prayer and witness at the Virginia General Assembly, Rally and March in Richmond! Your personal presence powerfully supports pro-life members of the Virginia General Assembly and encourages others to reconsider their views. We want our legislators to see we are engaged and expect to see them pass life-affirming legislation. Although this may be a bit out of the norm for you, you will enjoy the comradery and find it empowering to stand up for this noble cause!

What's the plan?

- ~6:30am Depart Nativity
- 8:30am Gather at the Richmond Convention Center
- 10am Senate and Delegate Meetings
- 12pm March for Life Rally
- 1pm Virginia March for Life
- ~2pm Depart Richmond
- ~4pm Arrive Nativity

Should you be interested in talking with your representative, tips for effective advocacy, talking points and legislative updates will be provided by the organizers to make your day easy, fun, and successful.

Join us!

Sign up below if you tentatively plan to attend so travel arrangements can be made!

Go to the [Sign-Up Genius!](#)



JOIN US FOR A *fiesta!*

NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL SPRING AUCTION

**WHEN: SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023
6:30 - 10:00PM**

**WHERE: NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL,
FATHER MARTIN CENTER**

<https://nativityschool.org/auction>

DONATION & SPONSORSHIP REQUESTS

Do you own a business and want to promote it in our auction program? Are you a satisfied current (or former) client of a business that you feel should get the recognition it deserves? **Sponsorships are 100% tax deductible!** We Need Your Donations!

- Have a timeshare or vacation home? Donate a week/weekend.
- Frequent flyer miles building up? Turn them into airline tickets.
- Are you crafty? Make a handcrafted item.
- Have season tickets? Donate tickets for one event.
- Do you cook, sew, paint, decorate, coach, tutor? Donate your services.
- Have your own business? Donate gift certificates, merchandise or buy a business ad.

Visit <https://nativityschool.org/auction> for sponsorship opportunities and donation form.

Questions: Contact auction@nativityschool.org

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 (McPherson Square and tent encampments) 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 you can visit the Nativity Parish website and under the Ministry tab, select No Hands But Yours. We also have a Signup Genius where you can access specifics along with our schedule where you can volunteer to assist. (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B4AAAFAC22A1FA7-nohands1>). 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). Thank you all for helping the needy. And remember always, that

“Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours...”
– St Theresa of Avila



**SAVE THE DATE: St. Lucy Winter Food Drive
Saturday, February 11th from 9:00AM-1:00PM**

The St. Lucy Winter Food Drive will take place from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday, 11 February to support Catholic Charities in its continuing fight 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 October 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, including 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 follow this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D49ADAE29A6FE3-stlucy1>. If you have questions, please email the St. Lucy Team at nativity.stlucyteam@gmail.com. Thank you and God bless you!

**Knights of Columbus Council 7992
Basketball Free Throw Challenge**

This fun event will be held on Saturday, February 4 from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM in the Father Martin Center and is open to all boys and girls ages 9 - 14. Each contestant will be scored on 15 free throws taken from an age-designated foul line. Boy and girl winners for each age group will be determined by highest score. In case of a tie, five additional tie-breaker free throws will be used to determine the winners. Participants can arrive any time between 6:00 - 9:00 PM and do not have to remain for the entire event. Participation time for each contestant is typically 15-20 mins. This is a community event so all are welcome regardless of parish affiliation. Bring friends and compete with each other! Group winners will be eligible to compete at the Knights of Columbus District Challenge in February at Holy Spirit in Annandale. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Jim Batrla at jbat747@gmail.com.

**For Families with Young Children
Connecting families with children
Newborn to Elementary**



Have you been looking for a way to connect with Catholic families for community, encouragement, and growth? There are MANY families with young children at Nativity and you are invited to our next Young Family Ministry meeting on February 4th!

To RSVP, please email yafamilyministry@nativityburke.org!



ST. LUCY FOOD DRIVE
Feeding the Hungry; Nourishing the Soul



PLEASE
DONATE

---- **SATURDAY, FEB 11 | 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!

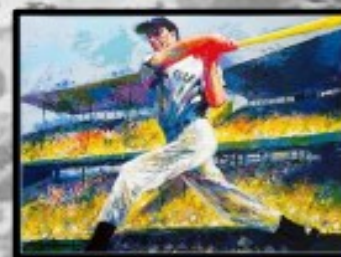
MONETARY GIFTS ALSO ACCEPTED

Checks can be made out to "CCDA" with "The St. Lucy Project" in the memo

You are Invited to a Charity Art for the Heart Art Auction

on
Saturday, 11 February 2023
at 7:00 pm
Nativity's Fr. Martin Center
6400 Nativity Ln, Burke, VA 22015

Sponsored by the
Nativity Knights of Columbus Council 7992 



Join us for a special evening featuring framed art of the highest quality from Marlin Art of New York, presented by Rick Brandwein, our Auctioneer.

Tickets: \$25 per person
or be a Patron, 6 Tickets for \$100

Admission Includes:

- Heavy Charcuterie Appetizers with Cured meats, Artisanal cheeses, Olives, Fancy Nuts, Fruit, and Light Desserts
- Complementary Wine and Soda

**Purchase
Tickets at**



SCAN ME

For more information, contact Tom Savage at
(512) 983-5641 or tom.savagejr@gmail.com

Unique format – in-person electronic bidding while auctioneer and artwork are simulcast.

****Will require use of smartphone with the free Marlinart app to bid on artwork.****

Registration, Preview, Pre-Bid/ Max Bid:
Tuesday, February 7, 2023 @ 9:00 am EST
Please visit Marlin Art's website at bid.marlinart.com. Registration required to preview artwork and receive your bid number. REGISTER EARLY! Preview ends at Showtime on Saturday.

All artwork will be delivered to Nativity for pick up at a later date.



Linktree Universal Sign-up Link:

Want to volunteer for an event?

All event sign-ups can be done through the following link. https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992 Event leads can also fill out a form to announce an event, and file an After Action Report through the link.



Virginia Defending Life Day & Virginia March for Life: Join Bishop Burbidge and us on 1 February for an exciting, full day of advocacy, prayer and witness at the Virginia General Assembly in Richmond! Sign up on the link tree.

St. Lucy Food Drive: Help hand out bags after Masses on 4-5 February. Volunteer to help with the collection on 11 Feb. Youth Basketball Free Throw Competition: Sat, February 4, 6pm – 9pm in the Fr. Martin Center (Gym). Contact Jim Batrla at jbat747@gmail.com for details.

Scout Sunday Pancake Breakfast: Help with this annual event and support the Scouts of Nativity Parish on 5 Feb.

Charity Art Auction: Help sell tickets after mass Jan 28-29 and Feb 4-5. Help set up for and clean up after the 11 February Auction. Sign up on the linktree. Buy Charity Art Auction tickets on the linktree. Contact Tom Savage at tomkc7992@gmail.com.

Exemplification: If you would like to join the Knights or are a current 1st or 2nd Degree Knight contact Pat Delatte at PMDELATTE@gmail.com. Make your 3rd Degree on 6 February at 7:30 in the Church.

Marian Homes Shred Event: Shred securely on 6 May 10am-12noon in the Nativity Parking lot.

Name Tags: Email Warden Michael Bender at michaelbambender@hotmail.com to order.

Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies: We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. Volunteer on the linktree.

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.” You can reach us at 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, please contact Br. John Landy at navyy8@yahoo.com or 703-250-1492.

Food for Others: We need volunteers drivers for food distributions. If you have a truck or van and can help deliver to Springfield Friday evenings once a month contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com.

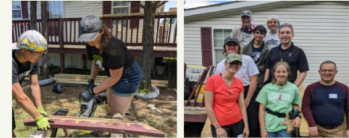
Join the Knights! The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend values in a busy changing world. Join today! Simply go to <https://info.kofc.org/us.html> and enter our council #7992 for local information and to register. E-membership for the first year is free using the new code “blessedmcgivney”. Please email our Deputy Grand Knight at PMDELATTE@gmail.com or the Grand Knight at tjskg7992@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Council Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. Rosary at 7:15 PM; meeting follows at 7:30 PM. Fellowship follows every meeting. Meetings are in the Nativity school cafeteria. The second meeting of the month is devoted to faith formation including the “Into the Breach” video/discussion series and guest speakers.

Calling all 3rd Degree Knights: The 4th Degree is calling. Members of the 4th Degree have the special honor of holding the title “Sir Knight,” participating in patriotic activities, color and honor guards and organizing programs that promote Catholic citizenship. Meetings 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Calling Adult Volunteers!

WorkCamp: June 17-23, 2023



This week-long diocesan service program relies on parishes making a community effort. There are many ways you can join us on this experience.

Scan QR Code to learn more and register!

Email questions to Brigid Williams at wc@nativityburke.org



AUCTION ITEM OF THE WEEK

At Movement, we believe we can change the world by helping each other recognize and become our best selves. We transform both people and the planet through climbing, yoga, and fitness. Enjoy four (4) climbing passes, good for a Book-a-Climb or general Day Pass. This item, as well as other winery tastings, will be available at the Auction!



Catholic Schools Week 2023

January 29–February 4

<https://www.ncea.org/csw>

Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2023 is January 29 – February 4. The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2023 is “*Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service.*” Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.

Help Our Parish Support the Catholic Herald

The Arlington Catholic Herald is the official newspaper and news source of the Diocese of Arlington. This award-winning, biweekly newspaper delivers Catholic news and information about our diocese, U.S. bishops and the Vatican to more than 108,000 homes across Virginia and beyond -- and 24-7 at catholicherald.com. Please donate to the annual second collection February 4-5, 2023, which helps our parish support the Catholic Herald in spreading the Good News. You may make a check payable to (name of parish) and please write “*ACH Second Collection*” on the memo line. Thank you!



NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



Join Us Today! Sunday, January 29th ~~
***Catholic Schools Mass today at 9:00 am**
***School OPEN HOUSE 10:00 am - 12:00 NOON**
We Have a Seat for Your Child ~~
For details, contact Shannon Murphy at
(703) 455-2300, or smurph@nativityschool.org.

We are ALL looking forward to a great week, filled with faith, friendship, and lots of fun! We've got a week ahead of us packed – full of events for folks of all ages, e.g., a Vocations talk for students with our Religious Team on Monday, followed by Senior Bingo from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and a Middle School Spelling Bee in the afternoon.

On Tuesday, the day begins with a Parent Breakfast and then visits to their children's classrooms afterward. A Teacher Dress Down Day and Lunch are set for Wednesday.

On Thursday, we will celebrate the 100th Day of School together in ways we are still devising, including a Military and Emergency Personnel Assembly, and will show you in photos published here and on our Nativity School Facebook page.

On Friday, after Mass, our students are involved in service projects, and/or classroom activities, as well as helping to celebrate the multicultural society that is ours, as our PTO hosts an assembly celebrating our culturally diverse society.

Join us at Nativity to see how your child would spend his or her days here -- learning, praying, sharing, loving, and laughing.

Upcoming Dates At-A-Glance!

- Jan. 29: Catholic Schools Week Begins!**
- Jan. 29: OPEN HOUSE 10 a.m. - 12 NOON**
- Jan. 30: Vocations Talk, Senior Bingo, Spelling Bee**
- Jan. 31: Parent Breakfast, Visit Classrooms**
- Feb. 1: Teacher Luncheon**
- Feb. 2: 100th Day of School! Military Assembly, etc.**
- Feb. 3: Service Project, PTO Assembly, Free Lunch**

JOIN OUR STAFF! Consider joining our School Staff as part of our Extended Care Team to help us provide After-School Care by contacting our Extended Care Director, Mrs. Jen Behan at (703) 455-2300, or jbehan@nativityschool.org. To assist us as a Lunch/Recess Monitor, or Substitute Teacher, please contact Rich Godwin at (703)455-2300, or rgodwin@nativityschool.org.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:3

The phrase "poor in spirit" can be confusing. Think of it in this sense -- poor in spirit means depending on God's providence and not depending on our own self-reliance. Being detached from earthly things (power, money, and comfort) and being attached to heavenly things (charity, sacrifice, and mercy). Denying ourselves from satisfying our desires and helping others obtain their basic needs.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact: *Rebecca Judge*
cym@nativityburke.org

Get connected to our Youth Ministry community by filling out the free 2022-2023 registration form. See the website to register or scan the QR codes below.

LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12

Sundays | 6:30-8:30pm



Dinner

Fellowship

Prayer & Formation

EDGE: GRADES 6-8

Alternating Sundays 3:30-5pm
& Fridays 7-8:30pm
See website for schedule



Meet new friends

Play games

Explore your faith

2023 HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUPS STARTING

Girls: Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30pm | Weekly
Guys: Thursdays, 7:30-9:00pm | 2x / month

Build meaningful relationships with your peers through small group discussion, communal prayer, and fellowship activities



Come Listen to Dr. John Bruchalski Talk about His Pro-Life Conversion



TWO PATIENTS

My Conversion from Abortion
to Life-Affirming Medicine

Tuesday, January 31, 2023
Lyceum Auditorium, 313 Duke St.

7-7:30 p.m.: Social time
7:30 p.m.: Talk begins

**Snacks/Refreshments
will be served**

Dr. Bruchalski is the Founder
and President of Divine Mercy Care
and the Founder of Tepeyac
OB/GYN in Fairfax, Virginia.

To RSVP:
<https://drjohnbruchalski.com/events/>

HIGH SCHOOL

Girls Small Group

WEDNESDAYS 7:00-8:30 PM | THE WELL



Join your Youth Ministry friends for a viewing of the mini series, *The Chosen*.

Must be registered for Youth Ministry before attending

Teach English at St. Bernadette School!

Looking for ways to help the community? Give the gift of English! We can train you, and all curriculum and resources are provided. Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington – Education and Workforce Development is currently seeking volunteer ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) teachers, substitutes and assistants for the upcoming semester. We offer four levels of English instruction. Classes are held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00pm-9:00pm. You only need to teach once or twice per week. No previous experience nor second language required! If interested, please email volunteer.hogar@ccda.net or call (571) 208-1572


The Stella Marina, Operation Starfish project is collecting new and gently used Pack 'n Plays for moms in Haiti to use for their babies and young children. The collection runs year round. Feel free to contact Susan at swelchparis@stellamarina.org to coordinate pick-up or leave in the parish office marked Stella Marina. Please visit <https://nativityburke.org/packnplay-needed/>

For Young Adults (21-39)

You are part of a larger community that...

- Serves with Christ House cooking breakfast every 3rd Saturday
- Grows together in 6-week Bible studies
- Plays Basketball every Thursday at 8:30pm in the Father Martin Center
- Serves at Mass as a greeters, ushers, musicians and more!
- New? Contact our Director Alison Fram to join our newsletter

afram@nativityburke.org
(703) 577-5329








ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Book for 2023 is now open with many dates available. 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/>.



CHILDREN'S ROSARY

Rosaries and prayer books are provided. No prior knowledge of the Rosary is needed. Parents are encouraged to attend in the role of "guardian angels" of the prayer movement. Second Saturday of each month in the Training Room from 4:00 - 4:30pm.

Welcome to

NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

6400 NATIVITY LANE, BURKE, VA 22015

COMMUNITY WORSHIP
FAITH FORMATION
FELLOWSHIP
SERVICE

Learn More...
www.nativityburke.org

Mass for World Marriage Sunday

Married couples are invited to attend the Mass for World Marriage Sunday at St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church in Fairfax on Saturday, February 25, 2023 at 5 p.m., celebrated by the Most Reverend, Michael F. Burbidge. There will be a dinner directly following the Mass for the first 100 couples who RSVP. Register at arlingtondiocese.org/wms. To learn more, call the Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life at (703) 841-2550.

Sundays with the Sisters Rejoice Tour 2023

Witness the joy of our religious sisters during the Sundays with the Sisters Rejoice Tour 2023! An initiative for the year of preparation for our diocesan jubilee in 2024, the tour will showcase the religious women of our diocese who, like Mary, rejoice in the Lord by their daily surrender.

The tour features an event at a different convent each month, bringing together sisters and lay women for prayer and community. For single women ages 18-50.

Upcoming: January 22, The Dominicans, Congregation of St. Cecilia; February 5: Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary; March 26: Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist.

RSVP by the Monday before each event to vocations@arlingtondiocese.org. More info at ArlingtonDiocese.org/RejoiceTour.

Gifts for Seminarian Education Endowment Fund (SEEF)

Please support our seminarians and SEEF, a permanent endowment fund established in 2011. SEEF's income provides funding for annual seminarian expenses such as room, board, tuition, health insurance and books, which total almost \$45,000 per seminarian. Please give generously! To donate, make checks payable to: **"Foundation for the CDA - SEEF."** Mail to: The Foundation, 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203. Contact John French at john.french@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-3819 with any questions. Thank you!

HOME 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.

Love working with children? Want flexibility? Consider subbing for 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
- ◆ Successful completion of Virtus training
- ◆ Successful background check
- ◆ Adherence to COVID-19 Safety Protocols

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

Struggling with addiction in the family?

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

You can designate Nativity Church or Nativity School as the beneficiaries of your Amazon Smile! You can choose Nativity by going to: **YOUR ACCOUNT, YOUR AMAZON SMILE and designating Nativity.** Amazon then contributes a small percentage of each purchase to Nativity. For questions, please contact Ann Benson at: 703 455 2400.



Nativity is a tithing community

Giving back a portion of God's blessings in gratitude

Are you registered in the Parish?

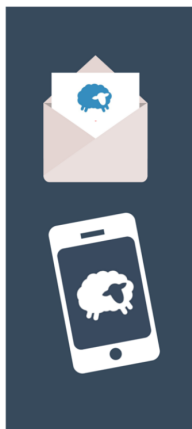
If you are not receiving mail or emails from the parish, chances are you are not registered. You are free to stop by the Parish Office to fill out a registration form to become a registered member of Nativity Parish or go online to: nativityburke.org and download one. Registration is required to be a Baptismal Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor.

Donate Your Car to Catholic Charities!

If you are thinking of replacing your car with something new, please consider donating your old car to Catholic Charities. Proceeds from the sale of working and non-working cars provide critical funds for our volunteer programs. It's easy, we handle all the paperwork and you receive an IRS donation receipt. Email Cars@ccda.net or call (703) 841-3898.



Keep in touch with Nativity via email



Stay up-to-date with Nativity via our Parish Flocknote Email!

We send a weekly (short!) email with upcoming events, and occasional updates

Scan the QR Code below

Or sign up on our website: nativityburke.org/email-and-text/

Scan the QR Code with your phone camera, a QR Code Reader App, or Google Lens



Questions?

Contact Mary Castellano
Nativity's Social Media Coordinator
socialmedia@nativityburke.org

BIBLE STUDIES AT NATIVITY PARISH (1/23)



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'll encounter Jesus through the Gospels. We read three chapters of Scripture each week and come together to talk about it. You can

register to do this either over Zoom or at a local coffee shop or restaurant, each group meeting at different dates and times. Register for the next Lent session beginning the week of February 26 at <https://nativityburke.org/ya-bible-study/> Contact Alison Fram afam@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. Register at <https://nativityburke.org/www/> OR Contact Erin Barrett wwpnativity@gmail.com

Thursday evening Bible Study: Meeting in person/virtually. We just finished our study of the Catholic Epistles, James, 1 & 2 Peter, Jude, 1, 2 & 3 John, very short epistles sent out to the universal Church. We will next look at how the books in the bible were selected. Meets each Thursday from 7:30 – 9:00pm in person in the school's Art Room and virtually. Contact Deacon Dick Kelly Deaconrk@aol.com

Friday morning Women's Bible Study. Meetings are Friday Mornings from 9:30-11:30 AM. We are currently studying Hebrews through February 10th. Our last two studies will be on Christ's Passion (Feb 24-Mar 31) and the Sermon on the Mount (Apr 14-May 5). We are operating with a hybrid format of in-person and Zoom meetings. 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 que ayudara a aumentar tu fe. 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. Desde Septiembre 24, 2021 a Junio 3, 2022. 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 virtually/in person. Men of all ages – Join us in reading and reflecting on Sunday scriptures and discussing how it relates to our lives and helps us become better Catholic husbands, dads, family members and friends. We meet Saturdays from 8:00 – 9:00 am virtually and in-person in the Training/Cry Room at the back of church. Drop-ins are always welcome! Contact Rick Loffredo rickleoffredo@outlook.com.

2022 ORDINATIONS



Congratulations to Rev. Peter St. George, Rev. Peter Clem, Rev. Daniel Reuwer, Rev. Mauricio Portillo, Rev. Daniel Rice, Rev. John O'Farrell, Rev. Philip Briggs, Rev. Robert Renner

THEY HAVE ANSWERED THE CALL. WILL YOU?



Seminarian Education
ENDOWMENT FUND

Funding Priestly Education for the Future of Our Diocese

Make Your Gift Today!

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
The Foundation for the CDA
(Please note "SEEF" on the memo line)



THE FOUNDATION
FOR THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

MAIL TO:
Foundation for the CDA
200 North Glebe Road, Suite 811
Arlington, VA 22203

ONLINE:
To make a gift, go to:
www.arlingtondiocese.org/Donate_SEEF

CONTACT: John French, Office of Development • john.french@arlingtondiocese.org • (703) 841-3819

Intercessions for the Year of Consecrated Life

For those consecrated to God by the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience that they may seek to live their baptismal promises more intensely and have the grace to persevere in their commitment to the Lord and serve with open hearts and willing spirits. We pray to the Lord...

For those who have responded to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to be a consecrated person that they may experience the support of the Church as they continue their growth in holiness. We pray to the Lord...

We pray for those who are consecrated to God by the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. May they always reveal the love of Christ to those they encounter and continue to enrich our world by their dedicated lives of prayer. Lord hear us...

We pray for all those who are discerning their vocation in life, particularly those whom the Lord is calling to consecrated life. May they be given the wisdom to hear God's call and the courage to respond generously. Lord hear us...

For those who are called to the consecrated life, may they be faithful witnesses of God's love. May others be inspired to live their baptismal commitment by professing the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. We pray to the Lord...

For all who actively support the promotion of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, that they may see the fruit of their efforts in a rich harvest of vocations. We pray to the Lord...

That the life and mission of the men and women in consecrated life be a means of sanctification for them and building up the kingdom of God. We pray to the Lord...

For all pastors and parish priests of our diocese, that they will recognize and invite those men and women being called to ordained and consecrated lives to answer the call. We pray to the Lord...

For all involved in the examination of candidates to priesthood or to consecrated life, that their choices will benefit the Church. We pray to the Lord...

That this be a time of grace and growth throughout the diocese, and that there will be a renewal of interest in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. We pray to the Lord...

That many young women will be open to Jesus' call to consecrated life to serve the many needs of the Church and of the world. We pray to the Lord...

NEED TO TALK?

Catholic Charities provides quality mental health services & counselors grounded in a Catholic understanding of the human person. "Nativity's Counselor" Ms. Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC is back at Nativity counseling clients in-person and is available on Thursdays from 10:00am-6:00pm to talk with any parishioners who may be struggling. To set up an appointment, please contact Marguerite at 703-454-2415 or mmturner@ccda.net.



Every human life is sacred
every woman, every man, every child
born and unborn



We walk with mothers in need, women in crisis pregnancies, their children, and families

Consider our resources for free or low-cost prenatal and other medical care, financial assistance, baby items, mental health counseling, spiritual, and other confidential support

Find it all here:



We offer healing to women who have experienced abortion

Learn about Project Rachel After Abortion Care Ministry or visit a Catholic parish near you



We pray, fast, and advocate for laws that protect every human life, from conception until natural death

Join the Virginia Catholic Conference advocacy network at vacatholic.org to protect all life



Follow Bishop Burbidge on Twitter!

Bishop Burbidge has over 21,000 followers on Twitter! His daily reflections and posts are popular and insightful. Follow him [@BishopBurbidge](https://twitter.com/BishopBurbidge).

**Victim Assistance Program
 For Those Sexually Abused as Minors**

The Catholic Diocese of Arlington provides comprehensive assistance to anyone who as a minor was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, teacher, employee or representative of the diocese. Parents, guardians, children and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, who will provide support, consultation, and referrals. The Catholic Diocese of Arlington is committed to assisting victims/survivors throughout the healing process. For further information, see www.arlingtondiocese.org/victim-assistance/ or call (703) 841-2530.

**THE SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE CONCERT SERIES
PRESENTS:**

"A French Organ Feast" performed by
CARLOS ALBERTO IBAY



*A program featuring
French composers
Couperin, Dupré, Franck,
Gigout, Gounod (& more!)
performed on the
St. Andrew Organ of the
Holy Archangels.*

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12
4:00PM**

**St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church
6720 Union Mill Road
Clifton, Virginia**

**A meet-the-artist reception with light refreshments
will follow in the Parish Hall.**

**For more information, please call (703) 817-1770
or visit www.st-andrew.org/concerts.**

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Zephaniah 2:3;3:12-13

Ps 146:6-10

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Matthew 5:1-12a

Monday January 30

Hebrews 11:32-40

Ps 31:20-24

Mark 5:1-20

Tuesday January 31

St. John Bosco

Hebrews 12:1-4

Ps 22:26b-28,30-32

Mark 5:21-43

Wednesday February 1

Hebrews 12:4-7,11-15

Ps 103:1-2,13-14,17-18a

Mark 6:1-6

Thursday February 2

Presentation of the Lord

Malachi 3:1-4

Ps 24:7-10

Hebrews 2:14-18

Luke 2:22-40

Friday February 3

St. Blase

Hebrews 13:1-8

Ps 27:1,3,5,8b-9

Mark 6:14-29

Saturday February 4

Hebrews 13:15-17,20-21

Ps 23:1-6

Mark 6:30-34

out arrogance) stand up for what is right because they love God, and so on down the list of beatitudes. Meditate on each blessing and notice your sainthood AND the challenge to become more saintly by improving how well you imitate Jesus.

The Church canonizes Saints (which we signify with a capital "S") so that we have role models. Even though we've not reached their level of holiness, we belong to

In the Gospel reading this Sunday, we get a glimpse of our own sainthood. The eight Beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-12 describe the holiness of those who imitate Jesus. The first four deal with our relationship with God; the last four deal with our relationships with others.

How can we call ourselves saints? Remember that you are a saint, as imperfect as you are at this time on your journey, because God has sanctified you through your baptism, thanks to what Jesus did for you on the cross. This means that he has blessed you. And blessed are you because you love as Jesus loves.

Everything that God blesses is made holy! Therefore, any person who lives the lifestyle of the Beatitudes (which is the lifestyle of Jesus) is blessed by God and can rightfully be called a saint: the poor in spirit who recognize that they need God's love, those who mourn and turn to the Holy Spirit for comfort, those who meekly (i.e., with-



the same communion of saints. A saint is anyone who is following Christ toward heaven, with or without a lay-over in purgatory. As we strive to improve, we can ask the Saints for help and receive their spiritual guidance.

Reflect & Discuss:

† Looking over the list of the Beatitudes, which do you implement best?

† Which do you need to improve?

† Which one do you find least desirable? Why? Discuss this with a Christian friend, priest, counselor or spiritual director to figure out how this weakness is really based on a misunderstanding of God's love for you. Then you will be set free to grow in this area of holiness!

† How do you avail yourself of help from the Saints?

† How does this enable you to grow in holiness? Give an example.



Here are the rest of the Beatitudes Jesus taught:

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
 for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say
 all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad,
 because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they
 persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Find the underlined words in the puzzle below.
 They may be found → ← ↑ ↓ ↗ ↘ ↙ ↚

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

Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+ January 29, 2023 • Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes

Jesus sat down on a mountainside. His disciples came to Him. What did He do?

Use the code to find the answer.

☾	A	C	G	M	O
☀	B	E	H	N	T
🌿	🐑	🍇	☆	🍎	

☀ 🍇 ☀ 🐑 ☀ 🌿 ☀ 🐑 ☀ 🍇 ☀ 🌿 ☀ ☆

☀ 🍎 ☀ 🍎 ☀ 🍎 ☀ 🐑 ☀ 🌿 ☀ 🐑 ☀ 🍇

☀ 🍎 ☀ 🍇 ☀ 🐑 ☀ 🌿 ☀ ☆

Jesus taught His disciples a series of sayings called the Beatitudes.

Find the first five Beatitudes by fitting the words from the list into the crossword puzzle. Then transfer them to the numbered lines.

poor	thirst	kingdom
meek	filled	blessed
mourn	hunger	merciful
earth	heaven	comforted
shown	spirit	righteousness
mercy	inherit	



- 1) _____ are the 2) _____ in 9) _____, for theirs is the 3) _____ of 13) _____.
- 1) _____ are those who 7) _____, for they will be 15) _____.
- 1) _____ are the 10) _____, for they will 4) _____ the 14) _____.
- 1) _____ are those who 17) _____ and 16) _____ for 8) _____, for they will be 12) _____.
- 1) _____ are the 5) _____, for they will be 6) _____ 11) _____.



Day of Prayer & Healing

Post-Abortion Retreat for Women

Saturday, March 25, 2023

Saturday, September 30, 2023

Día de Oración Y Sanación

Retiro después del Aborto Provocado
para Mujeres:

sábado 25 de marzo del 2023

sábado 30 de septiembre del 2023

For confidential help / Para ayuda confidencial:

703.841.2504



helpafterabortion.org
[instagram.com/afterabortioncare](https://www.instagram.com/afterabortioncare)
[facebook.com/HelpAfterAbortion](https://www.facebook.com/HelpAfterAbortion)



Bienaventuranzas de la ternura de Dios

Les ofrezco algunas bienaventuranzas de la ternura de Dios.

Por: P. Guillermo Serra, LC | Fuente: la-oracion.com



Introducción

La oración es llenarse del gozo de ser poseído por el amor de Dios. De esta vivencia nace la experiencia de ser dichosos, de ser bienaventurados. En las bienaventuranzas Cristo se nos hace presente de distintas maneras y nos dejar sentir su ternura.

Les ofrezco algunas bienaventuranzas de la ternura de Dios. Cada uno, en su oración, podría y debería continuar la lista según haya experimentado esta cercanía amorosa y tierna de Dios. Lléalas a la oración, déjate envolver por la dicha de ser amado por el Amor y no te canses de sentir su ternura.



Bienaventurado serás...

Bienaventurado serás si te agachas para entrar en la cueva de Belén y así ver a Jesús, hijo de Dios, en un pesebre, envuelto en pañales (Lucas 2, 1-20). **Ternura de Dios, hecha carne de mi carne, acaricia mi corazón.**

Bienaventurado serás si dejas que te cargue Jesús sobre sus hombros, te rescate de las tinieblas del pecado y te lleve a su rebaño. Él conoce sus ovejas y las tuyas lo conocen. (Lc 15,4-6). **Ternura de Dios, hecho Buen Pastor, carga mi corazón.**

Bienaventurado será si te dejas perdonar por Jesús, quien nunca te condena. Su mano toma la tuya y te levanta para invitarte a no pecar más y seguirlo de cerca (Jn 8). **Ternura de Dios, hecha perdón y misericordia, acaricia mi corazón.**

Bienaventurado serás si te alimentas del pan y vino hechos carne y sangre de Jesús para la vida del mundo (Jn 6). **Ternura de Dios, hecha alimento de vida eterna, nutre mi corazón.**

Bienaventurado serás si dejas que Jesús fije su mirada en tus ojos y así sentir el amor tan grande que tiene (Mc 10, 17-20). Su mirada de cielo te recordará tu vocación, tu tierra y tu destino. **Ternura de Dios, hecha mirada amorosa de Jesús, fija tus ojos en mi corazón.**

Bienaventurado serás si sacias tu sed de la única agua que puede dar la vida eterna. No volverás a tener sed y de tu corazón saldrán ríos de agua viva (Jn 4, 10-15)

Bienaventurado serás si regresas a la casa del Padre y experimentas el abrazo de amoroso de quien te siempre te espera incondicionalmente (Lc 15, 20). **Ternura de Dios, hecha acogida, abrazos y besos por el hijo perdido y encontrado, sana mi corazón.**

Bienaventurado serás si escuchas y contemplas las lágrimas de Jesús por ti, porque no vives cómo Él quiere, porque "estás muerto". Él te quiere resucitar como a su amigo Lázaro (Jn 11,35). **Ternura de Dios, hecha lágrimas de amor profundo y sincero, riega con tu amor mi corazón.**

Bienaventurado serás si con humildad dejas que Jesús te lave los pies, te quite el polvo del camino y te enseñe la lección del servicio (Jn 13, 4-10). **Ternura de Dios, hecha esclavo por amor a los hombres, haz mi corazón humilde como el tuyo.**

Bienaventurado serás si avanzas hasta la cruz para contemplar a un Dios humillado, fijado en una cruz, cargando con los pecados del mundo (Jn 19). **Ternura de Dios, hecha pecado por amor y salvación mía y la de todos los hombres, salva mi corazón.**

Bienaventurado serás si permaneces bajo la cruz para recibir de Jesús el regalo más hermoso de un hijo: "He ahí a tu Madre"(Jn 19, 26). Sí, bienaventurado serás por siempre porque quien acoge a la Madre en su casa y en su corazón tiene asegurado el cielo. **Ternura de Dios, hecho don precioso de la Madre, lleva mi corazón siempre a María y por ella a Jesús.**

Para la oración personal

1. Ponte en presencia de Dios y repasa junto a Él las experiencias de tu vida donde hayas tocado esa ternura.
2. De estas experiencias escribe cuáles son las bienaventuranzas que más te tocan y que dirigen tu vida hacia Él.
3. Expresa tu gratitud por estas señales tiernas de su presencia y guárdalas en tu memoria y corazón. Ellas serán pilares para crecer en amistad y sostenerte en los momentos de cruz y oscuridad. Iluminarán tu vida y te darán calor.

El domingo pasado hacíamos memoria de las dos palabras básicas de la vida cristiana: la conversión del corazón y la llamada de Jesús. Jesús nos llama y nos invita a llamar.

Hoy, en el sermón del monte, recordamos otra palabra básica: la felicidad.

Mucho antes de que la Constitución americana reconociera como derechos del hombre: el derecho a la vida, a la libertad y a la consecución de la felicidad, Jesús nos llamó felices y dichosos y nos dio la receta para conseguirlo.

Hacia el final de su vida Sir Cecil Rhodes, constructor de un gran imperio en África del Sur, fue felicitado por un reportero por sus grandes éxitos. Usted debería ser un hombre muy feliz, le dijo. Sir Cecil Rhodes le contestó: “¿Feliz? Oh Dios mío, no. He pasado mi vida acumulando riqueza y ahora tengo que gastarla toda. La mitad se la llevan los médicos para evitar ir a la tumba y la otra mitad se la llevan los abogados para evitar ir a la cárcel”.

Con un poco de humor Sir Cecil Rhodes reconocía las limitaciones de la felicidad humana y del poder del dinero.

Nos dice el evangelio de Mateo que Jesús subió al monte, no como Moisés para entregarnos la Ley del NO, sino para entregarnos su Carta Magna que no señala los límites que no hay que franquear sino que nos muestra nuevos horizontes y nos habla de la felicidad del hoy y de la esperanza del mañana.

Los diez mandamientos son claros y fáciles de guardar. Para muchos cristianos son la única Ley a cumplir. Se pueden cumplir sin amar como cualquier otra ley humana. Son la expresión del puritanismo total.

Las bienaventuranzas de Jesús que hemos proclamado son actitudes del corazón. Son evangelio y el evangelio sólo se puede vivir desde el amor a Dios y a los hermanos. Las Bienaventuranzas no dicen nada sobre el culto, las oraciones o ayunos, sólo insisten en lo humano, lo verdaderamente humano.

Hoy, ustedes y yo vivimos en un mundo desacralizado, paganizado. La Religión es un estorbo para muchos hombres, un pelo en la sopa que nos avergüenza y nos hace tirar el pelo y la sopa.

La Religión dice Ted Turner es para los perdedores.

Cortado el cordón umbilical que nos une a lo eterno hemos optado por vivir bajo el imperio de lo efímero: adoramos el dinero y despreciamos a los pobres, la corrupción, palabra archirepetida en todas las sociedades, es una lacra, el sexo bajo todas sus formas está omnipresente en todos los medios de comunicación... y la Religión pierde cada día más clientes.

Y Jesús nos habla de felicidad, de su felicidad, porque sabe que los humanos no podemos vivir sin ella.

Bienaventurados, dichosos, felices... los pobres, los mansos, los limpios de corazón, los constructores de la paz...

¿Cómo les suena esta letanía de la felicidad?

A muchos les suena a maldición, a escándalo, a opio.

Estas supuestas bienaventuranzas contradicen nuestra manera de pensar y de vivir.

Para que las Bienaventuranzas sean reales tenemos que prestar atención a la segunda parte, a las promesas que encierran: heredarán la tierra, serán consolados, son hijos de Dios.... Los cristianos vemos el mundo desde Dios, desde su proyecto de salvación, no lo vemos con las gafas de Wall Street.

Estas ocho felicidades de Jesús tendrían que ser meditadas a lo largo de la semana. Una cada día.

Y a estas felicidades tendríamos que añadir una más. La felicidad de ser cristiano.

Son muchos los que hoy se avergüenzan de manifestar públicamente su identidad cristiana como si ser cristiano fuera sinónimo de persona infeliz, de perdedor, de oprimido por el yugo de la Religión. El cristiano es un ser feliz y tiene que ser signo de

felicidad para los demás. La felicidad y la alegría son la mejor tarjeta de visita para la evangelización.

En esta sociedad que “ha perdido los puntos de referencia” nosotros, felices de ser cristianos, elegimos ser solidarios con los hermanos que viven en la pobreza, en el dolor, en la persecución, en las lágrimas, situaciones humanas que entristecen a Jesús y que El vino a sanar. Jesús, el hombre para los demás, vivió la felicidad de las Bienaventuranzas.

Jesús invita, no a sus fans, sino a sus seguidores a mirar al exterior y ser motivo de felicidad para los demás.

IV DOMINGO ORDINARIO - A

Evangelio: Mt 5,1-12 Caminos de felicidad

Una vez más se proclaman en la Santa Misa las Bienaventuranzas. Sin duda se trata de uno de los párrafos más bellos de la Biblia por la profundidad antropológica en que se basan y por el dinamismo arrollador, santificador y apostólico, que plantea al creyente, al hombre de bien, a toda persona con espíritu joven, optimista, generoso y valiente; y en consecuencia por los compromisos que plantea y exige a quien desea de verdad ser feliz, también en este mundo. Merece la pena leer y meditar con frecuencia estas propuestas de felicidad, que Jesús nos hace, y embarcarse por este camino o proyecto de vida y felicidad, de plenitud y satisfacción.

Señor, Jesús, ante esta propuesta de las Bienaventuranzas, lo primero es darte gracias por este ideal de vida que me propones.

Ciertamente no es fácil seguirlo en su plenitud, pero tu promesa de paz, alegría y felicidad es tan insistente y machacona, que no puedo menos que confiar en tu palabra, y en tu gracia, y por tanto en su final feliz. Por otra parte, Señor, la experiencia me va enseñando y certificando que tus promesas se cumplen perfectamente en todos los buenos cristianos, santos ya reconocidos en el santoral, y cristianos anónimos, que han ido por la vida seguros y felices, y desbordando paz y alegría, optimismo y generosidad, en una palabra Amor de Dios y amor a todos.

También ahora, los conozco y admiro, aunque no siempre sea capaz de imitarles. Pero una vez más confío en tu Palabra y en tu ayuda, y una vez más me reafirmo en el deseo y propósito de hacer de las bienaventuranzas el programa de vida con mi familia, en el trabajo profesional, en las diversiones y en toda la vida social.

Te pido, Señor, por todos los hombres de buena voluntad, y en concreto por todos los cristianos, para que valoremos este programa de vida y lo demos a conocer con nuestras palabras y sobre todo con el testimonio de vida.

Te pido, Señor, que entienda la verdadera pobreza de espíritu, ..., que sea paciente y misericordioso ..., que viva siempre con la ilusión de ayudar, perdonar, consolar ... Que no me importen las dificultades, críticas, persecuciones, a la hora de mantener y defender la justicia para todas las personas y en todos los ambientes sociales.

Que sienta habitualmente la paz y satisfacción interior por guiarme y actuar con un corazón limpio, transparente, generoso y abierto a todos.

Con San Francisco de Asís te digo:

Que donde haya odio, yo lleve amor. Que donde haya ofensa, yo lleve perdón.

Que donde haya tristeza, yo lleve alegría. Que donde estén las tinieblas, yo lleve luz.

Maestro: haz que no busque tanto: ser consolado, como consolar.

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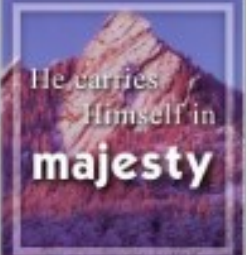


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