

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

MATTHEW 5:14



1973 2023

6400 Nativity Lane,
Burke, Virginia 22015
nativityburke.org

REV. ROBERT C. CILINSKI, PASTOR
REV. CHRISTOPHER H. HAYES, PAROCHIAL VICAR
REV. EDWARD BRESNAHAN, PAROCHIAL VICAR
REV. CEDRIC P. WILSON, ASSISTING PRIEST/
SPANISH MINISTRY
DEACON RICHARD F. KELLY

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS

EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Sister Donatella Merulla, A.R., M.R.E.
Sister Mary Attilia Todaro, A.R., M.R.E.
Fania Jimenez, Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Sturgeon, Confirmation Coordinator

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454 2415



PARISH OFFICE: (703) 455-2400

PARISH FAX: (703) 455-6832

NATIVITY SCHOOL: (703) 455-2300

NATIVITY FAX: (703) 569-8109

PRE-SCHOOL: (703) 455-2300 ext. 136

CCD OFFICE: (703) 455-0372

CCD OFFICE FAX: (703) 455-6832

SUNDAY MASSES: 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass in Spanish
7:00 a.m./9:00 a.m./11:00 a.m./
1:00p.m./5:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES: 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday
12:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 a.m. on Saturday

HOLY DAY MASSES: As Announced

RECONCILIATION: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. on Saturday
or, if necessary, by appointment

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

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

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

WEBMASTER: Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

SOCIAL MEDIA: Mary Castellano,
socialmedia@nativityburke.org

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



@Nativity Parish Burke



@nativityparishburke_

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



REFLECTION

The prophet Isaiah reminded the captives that freedom did not mean unending bliss. Freedom meant responsibility toward those who had less than they did. If they heard the cries of the oppressed and did not turn their backs on them, than the Lord would hear their pleas when they were in need.

Paul, sent by Christ to preach the gospel radiated the light of God. Consequently, people were attracted to the apostle's message.

Jesus knew how bland the world was without the zest and power of the Spirit. If his followers' faith was weak, how could they, cause others to thirst for God? If they hid their light, how could they be source of illuminations for them? With the light of faith, they would be light-bearers to the whole world. When others saw the goodness of their deeds, they would give praise to God.

For Reflection—In what ways have I hidden my light? How have I shared it?

Love and Blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski

Fr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

ACCOLADE OF THE WEEK

Many thanks to all who participated in the March for Life on Friday, January 20th in Washington D.C. Nativity had an entire bus of parishioners of all ages attending with hundreds of thousands across the country. It was a great day for all of us to be Champions of Life through prayer and witness.



The 2023 Bishop's Lenten Appeal

The 2023 BLA Commitment Sunday is next weekend! Once a year we are asked to make a pledge to support our diocesan programs and ministries which provide services that assist thousands of people in our diocese. By participating in the BLA, we remember the joy with which Mary responded to God the Father and gave of herself in truth and purity. We likewise are asked to respond to God's call to serve our brothers and sisters.



**You may go online to make a donation
at: www.arlingtondiocese.org/bls or scan the QR code.**

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**

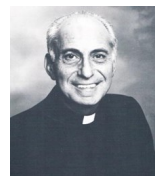
Location: in the church

**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. He recently returned from engagements in Asia and Australia.

**On This Date in Nativity History
5 August 2004**



On August 5, 2004, a Funeral Mass was offered at Nativity for Father Salvator Ciullo, Nativity's second pastor. The celebrant was Arlington Bishop Paul Loverde. Father Ciullo died 25 July while visiting family in Italy. He was 73. Father Ciullo was

pastor at Nativity for 12 years, from 1984 to 1996. After leaving Nativity in 1996, he served as founding pastor of St. Raymond of Penafort Parish in Fairfax Station, where he served until 2000 when he became pastor of Queen of Apostles Parish in Alexandria. He retired in December 2000. At the time of his death, he was living in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Interment followed at Mount Comfort Cemetery in Alexandria.

This historical note is the 35th of a weekly Bulletin feature leading up to Nativity's fiftieth anniversary, 11 June 2023.

Nativity Widows' Group -- "In Mary's Footsteps"

This group is for widows going forward in faith and fellowship in a prayerful, positive, supportive and joyful way. We strive to follow in our Blessed Mother's footsteps and example of strong faith and peace after St. Joseph passed. Our next meeting will be on Monday, February 13th at 11:00 am in the "training room" at the back of the church. Please feel free to join us on that day and bring a photo of you and your husband on your wedding day. We will also be meeting for dinner at Villa Bella restaurant on February 15th. More on that at the meeting. For more information, please contact Cat Sands at Csands@nativityburke.org. May God bless you!

Man on the Move with the Gospel

A Friar's Preaching Ministry

by Fr. Simon Conrad, O.F.M.Cap.

When Jesus gave us the Our Father He taught us to pray: "Thy Kingdom come." In His final marching orders to the Apostles He challenged them: "Go, teach..." One Mid-American friar "on-the-Go" of the Gospel is Fr. Simeon Gallagher. Through his preaching ministry he is preserving and extending the frontiers of the Lord's Kingdom.

After his pastoral experience in parish work and university campus ministry, Simeon became part of the Emmaus Program, a pool of priests devoted to preaching in the United States and Europe. Since 1985 he has been a one-man "mission band" preaching parish missions, retreats for clergy, and religious communities.

His busy schedule has taken Simeon from coast-to-coast, Hawaii, England, and Ireland. Men and women in the United States military stationed in Germany and South Korea have found Simeon sharing the Good News of the Kingdom among their ranks. The uniformed men and women at several military bases have appreciated the time and spiritual gifts this Mid-American Capuchin friar has shared with them.



Fr. Simeon Gallagher preaches throughout the United States, and is often tapped for parish missions. Recently he shared the Gospel message at Holy Family Church in Syracuse, New York.

Simeon's message and engaging preaching skills have prompted many return invitations to parishes and retreat centers. Some pastors have jokingly said to him: "You have to keep coming back until you finally get it right."

People tell Fr. Simeon that he does have it right and they want to enjoy the benefit of hearing his message again. This unique preaching ministry has given Simeon a window-seat on the life of the church in America today. He is filled with hope as he sees people striving to live in the light of Christ.

"I have been blessed by the various ministries I have done: campus ministry, parish ministry, teaching ministry, and military ministry, but the preaching ministry has been a grace beyond imagining. It has given me a first-hand experience of the vitality of American Catholicism.

"The depth of spiritual development in our Catholic people continues to delight me. Despite our imperfections and shortcomings as a Catholic community, the enthusiasm and commitment of our priests and people are a source of hope for the future.



Parishioners of Holy Family Church in Syracuse, New York, gather for one of Fr. Simeon's sessions during a recent parish mission.

"The long-standing Capuchin ministry of itinerant preaching has been a source of faith formation and education for me and I am grateful.



Fr. Simeon Gallagher

"My theology of preaching contains these elements: the goodness of creation and the human person, the salvific activity of the Father's love in the person of Jesus His Son, the call of the Spirit to strive for unity, truth, etc., and the importance of being led in the Spirit into community so as to be fed and sustained by the historical reality of the millions of people who remind me of my own interconnectedness, an interconnectedness that sustains me and loves me in spite of my failure and sin."

"Despite our imperfections and shortcomings as a Catholic community, the enthusiasm and commitment of our priests and people are a source of hope for the future."

- Fr. Simeon Gallagher

A Preacher Named Simeon

Fr. Simeon Gallagher grew up in Philadelphia and became connected with the Capuchins at Herman, Pennsylvania, at the age of 14. Joining the friars in 1958, Fr. Simeon was ordained a priest by Capuchin Bishop Firmin Schmidt in 1971.

Before going on the road, Simeon served as campus minister at Fort Hays State University, co-pastor of Good Shepherd parish in Shawnee Mission, Kansas, and pastor of Holy Cross church in Thornton, Colorado. During final preparations for itinerant preaching, he also served as assistant pastor and campus minister in Coral Gables, Florida.

Simeon is a voracious reader and ever seeks to expand his vision. Beyond multiple Master's degrees – religious education (1970), English literature (1980), and liberal arts (1996) – he also has done extensive doctoral level studies in preaching.

Besides hundreds of parish missions and retreats to religious communities and open retreats at retreat centers, he has frequently tackled the more demanding task of leading retreats for the diocesan clergy of at least 65 of the nation's 194 dioceses – as well as those in Birmingham, England.

Every month or so, Simeon returns to his home friary, presently St. Francis of Assisi in Denver, to receive the fraternal and prayerful embrace of his brothers and to prepare for the weeks ahead "on-the-Go" of the Gospel.

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!

- Have a timeshare or vacation home? Donate a week/weekend.
- Frequent flyer miles building up? Turn them into airline tickets.
- Have antique items or pieces of art? Let someone else enjoy it in their home!
- Have season tickets? Donate tickets for one event.
- Have your own business? Donate a service, gift certificates or merchandise.
- Want to help, but not sure how? Check out our Auction Wish-List at <https://a.co/cGeg3cy>

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

Lenten Soup Supper
MARCH 1, 8, 15, 22
NATIVITY CAFETERIA | 5:30-7:00 PM

SOUPS MADE BY YOU | SERVED BY OUR TEENS |
BENEFITING NATIVITY MINISTRIES | ENJOYED BY ALL!



DONATE A SOUP!



Nativity Catholic Church

Ash Wednesday
February 22
Mass Schedule

6:00 am – 7:30 am
9:00 am (school & community)
12:00 noon – 4:00 pm
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm (biligual)

LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE
Catholics 14 years of age and older are obliged to abstain from meat and those 18-59 are obliged to fast (1 full meal and 2 smaller ones to maintain strength) unless medical or serious reasons exist. All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence, Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence.




NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH
MISSION STATEMENT

“We, the People of Nativity Catholic Church, by our baptism, are joyful disciples of Jesus Christ. We strive to love God, love others, and form new disciples. We celebrate Jesus Christ in Word, Sacrament and Service.”

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/>

Challenges of diabetes keeping you frustrated? Come join us at the next meeting of the Diabetes Support Group. We meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting: Wednesday, February 8th at 7:00PM, in class room 204. For further info, please contact RoseAnne Zivich at brzivich@aim.com.



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.

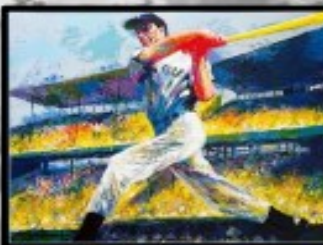
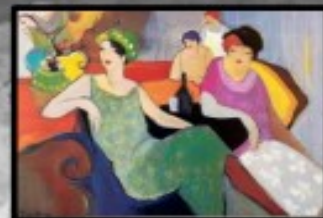
Scan QR Code to learn more and register!

Email questions to Brigid Williams at wc@nativityburke.org

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.



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.

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!

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 \$78,557 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.

Young Adult Bible Study

Partnering people with a small group is a great way to grow both friendships and learning about our faith.



Our annual Lent Bible Study starts **February 26.**

Sign Up Here



Questions?

Email Alison
afaram@nativityburke.org



MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, February 6th

7:30 am † Gloria Summers

Tuesday, February 7th

7:30 am † Dario Guevara

12:00 pm † Stephanie Bomar

Wednesday, February 8th

7:30 am † Daniel Hunter

Thursday, February 9th

7:30 am † George Getek

12:00 pm † Stephen Lisi Jr.

Friday, February 10th

7:30 am † Conte Family

9:00 am † Cecile Mary Bosworth

Saturday February 11th

9:00 am † Sally Mernah

5:00 pm † Nick Bonnacorsy

7:00 pm † Elsa Llinas

Sunday February 11th

7:00 am † Sally Mernah

9:00 am † Pat and John Hisler

11:00 am Margaret O'Brien

1:00 pm † The O'Brien Family

5:30 pm Parishioners

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

Please note that the current Mass Intentions Calendar has been filled through June 2023. We will open up the second part of 2023 (July-December) in June. Please see the Bulletin for the announcement.

ECHO Food Room Most Needed Items

February Collection will be THIS 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 Products |
| Pancake Syrup | Canned Meat (Spam is a favorite) | Paper Towels |
| Cinnamon | Laundry Detergent | Brown Paper Grocery Bags |
| Instant Coffee | Band Aids | |
| Toilet paper | | |



Nativity Marriage Enrichment Ministry
invites all engaged and married couples to our

February
Date Night

FEBRUARY 18TH

6:00 PM | Nativity Catholic Church Cafeteria
6400 Nativity Lane Burke, VA 22015

**Speakers: Mike and Alicia Hernon
with The Messy Family Project**

**RSVP: nativityburke.org/mem-date-night/
Contact Jennifer Sturgeon: jsturgeon@nativityburke.org**

ECHO NEWS

How are you doing on your New Year's resolutions? If you resolved to find more meaningful activities for your life, ECHO might be able to help. We need volunteers for the following jobs on the days that are listed. Contact Volunteercoordinator@echo-inc.org for more information.

- *Clothing Room - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday mornings and 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings.*
- *Assistant Family Counselor - Monday mornings (we will train you)*
- *Donation Door - Tuesday evenings*
- *E-Bay or online seller for donated items ECHO cannot use (this job is done from home)*
- *Facilities Maintenance Leader to coordinate maintenance team members for all maintenance and repairs on the ECHO property*
- *Food Room - Thursday mornings, Tuesday evenings, Thursday evenings*
- *Housewares - Thursday evenings*
- *Security Leader - Tracking keys, implementing emergency and safety policies and procedures*

February Needs

- ⇒ If you belong to a group that would like to hold a drive where donors do not have to purchase anything in order to contribute, a drive to collect used, but clean, useful household items would be welcome. Please email admin@echo-inc.org and put "Housewares Drive" in the subject line. The chair of the Housewares Department will reply and supply a list of all the things ECHO can use. Currently, Housewares needs towels, hand can openers, king and queen comforters and cookware.
- ⇒ ECHO's Clothing Room will begin accepting donations of gently used spring and summer clothing on February 15. The greatest needs in the Clothing Room continue to be children's sneakers, men's sneakers (size 7, 8), men's jeans (30 and 32 inch waist sizes) and new men's underwear.
- ⇒ Please consider donating gently used K-12 books for young readers. Label your donation "School Supplies" because ECHO uses these books in the Backpack Program.
- ⇒ All donations are gratefully accepted at ECHO's Donation Door, 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, on weekdays between 9:30 am and 12:30 pm, or Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings between 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm as well as one Saturday morning a month (check echo-inc.org for the date each month). Receipts are cheerfully provided.

MY SOUL *Rejoices*
IN THE *Lord*



TO *Donate*
TO THE BLA
SCAN QR CODE
BELOW:



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...

For all men and women preparing for the priesthood or consecrated life, that their days of formation be filled with joy, peace and the certainty of God's love. We pray to the Lord...

World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in parishes this weekend. 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 generously to God's gift of their vocation.

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

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

33 DAYS CONCECRATION



Join us for a small group retreat. 33 Days to Merciful Love begins 8 March 2023. This promises to be an enriching 6-week Lenten program with consecration on Divine Mercy Sunday. We follow the book -33 Days to Merciful Love: A Do-It-Yourself Retreat in Preparation for Consecration to Divine Mercy by Fr. Michael Gaitley. Each person purchases their own book (Amazon, Thriftbooks or Shop Mercy.com).

Journey into the heart of St Therese of Lisieux's Little Way with your fellow parishioners. Learn through the example of St Therese's life and her desire to be a saint, as you gain a greater understanding of God's Merciful love. Fr. Gaitley hones in on St Therese's spirituality and connects it with Divine Mercy. Whether you want to deepen your love of Divine Mercy or to deepen your devotion to St Therese you are encouraged to join us. All meetings are via Zoom on Wednesday evenings from 7:45 PM to 9 PM. Registration is now open on the Nativity website: <https://nativityburke.org/33-days/#register> or contact Steve at 33dayconsecration@nativityburke.org.

AUCTION ITEM OF THE WEEK



The Spartans Family Restaurant, located in Burke, provides delicious Greek, Mediterranean, Italian & American cuisine, as well as great service in a comfortable atmosphere, making you feel like part of the family! Enjoy a dinner out with two (2) gift cards totaling \$55. This item, as well as other restaurant gift cards, will be available at the Auction!



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.

A message from Nativity Creation Care Ministry



Consistent with traditional Catholic teaching, Catholic Climate Covenant notes that care for creation and a concern for climate change is a pro-life issue. *"The web of life is one. Our mistreatment of the natural world diminishes our own dignity and sacredness, not only because we are destroying resources that future generations of humans need, but because we are engaging in actions that contradict what it means to be human. Our tradition calls us to protect the life and dignity of the human person, and it is increasingly clear that this task cannot be separated from the care and defense of all of creation."*
 – USCCB, *Renewing the Earth*, November 1991



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl meeting for this month will be held on Monday morning, February 13th at 9:30am in the Fr. Ready room. All are welcome!

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



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.

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.

St. Lucy Food Drive: Help hand out bags after Masses on 4-5 February. Volunteer to help with the collection on 11 February.

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

Charity Art Auction: Help sell tickets after mass Feb 4-5. Help set up for and clean up after the 11 February Auction. Sign up on the linktree. BUY 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 Feb at 7:30pm in the Church.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance: Parish-wide event back after 3 year hiatus on 18 March! Details forthcoming.

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.

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 tjsgk7992@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 video/discussion series and guest speakers.

Calling all 3rd Degree Knights: The 4th Degree is calling you to participate in patriotic activities, color and honor guards and organizing programs that promote Catholic citizenship. Meetings 2nd Tuesday of the month; 7:30 pm rosary: 7:45 pm business meeting followed by fellowship. If you are interested in becoming a 4th Degree Sir Knight, please contact our Faithful Navigator Mark Corzine (wfn2996@gmail.com) for more information.

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

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!



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

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 THIS weekend, 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!

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

Give a Gift for Life

Please give a Gift for Life this season to help Project Rachel provide counseling and healing retreats to those who suffer the effects of abortion. One after-abortion care retreatant wrote:

"I would have NEVER had the courage to show my face at this [abortion healing] retreat... God works in mysterious ways and by His grace, I found the courage to step forward in my faith. I am so grateful that this ministry exists and was there for me... without judgement when I was ready to tackle the deep-rooted pain in my heart. I am forever grateful!" For more information and/or to donate: www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife

Love Is Given Prayer Group

Please join us every Thursday evening from 7:00PM-8:30 PM for an evening of prayer, praise and community. We meet each week in the Fr. Ready room. Come in through the school entrance, first room on your left. We look forward to seeing you!



RETRouvaille

HelpOurMarriage.org

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Are you looking for a lifeline for your marriage?

- Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
- Are you frustrated, hurt, or angry with your spouse?
- Are you constantly fighting? Or, do you simply shut down?
- Have you thought about separation or divorce?
- Does talking about it only make it worse?

... Retrouvaille provides marriage help! [Click here](#) for more information.

For 2023, there is one weekend being hosted in Virginia so far and it is right in Fairfax from **February 17-19**. The cost is \$500/couple. Register [here](#).



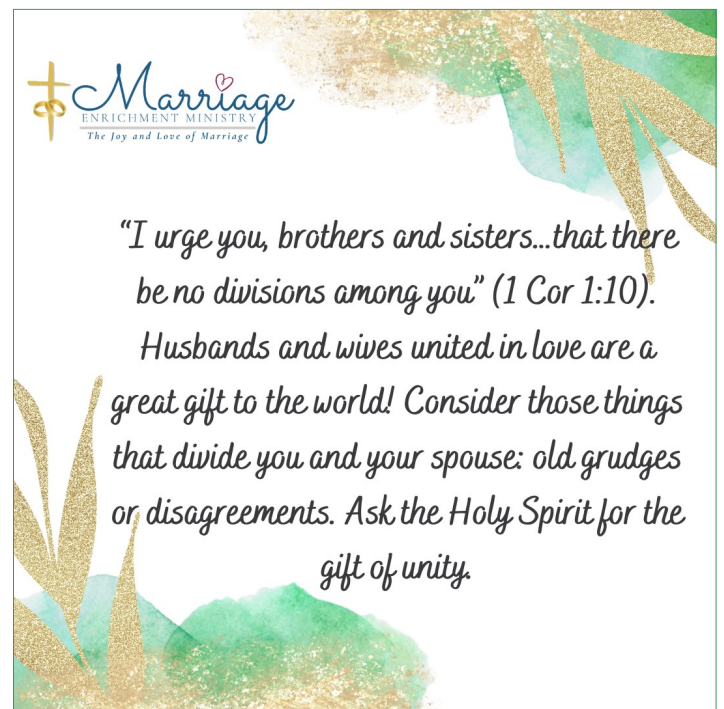

Every human life is sacred

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
-  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

Find it all here:



Marriage

ENRICHMENT MINISTRY
The Joy and Love of Marriage

*"I urge you, brothers and sisters...that there be no divisions among you" (1 Cor 1:10).
Husbands and wives united in love are a great gift to the world! Consider those things that divide you and your spouse: old grudges or disagreements. Ask the Holy Spirit for the gift of unity.*

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.

Nativity Job Opening - Church Office Receptionist
Evenings: Monday thru Friday from 4:00pm-9:00pm
Saturdays: from 9:00am-2:00pm

We are in need of an evening and Saturday receptionist (perfect for college student - work/study job).

Job summary: To meet and greet, by phone or in person, all parishioners, guests, and persons, assist them, and/or direct them to the appropriate location. Bilingual a plus. To apply, send your resume to abenson@nativityburke.org.

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!

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!



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

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.

PILGRIMAGE

St. John Paul II National Shrine

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

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

RSVP to
marriage@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.

Please let Jennifer know if you are attending, we have Nativity MEM couples that would like to sit together---look for Jennifer and Mark.

Dear Nativity Parishioners

I am a fellow parishioner and a close friend of mine is in urgent need of a kidney transplant. He is on the Georgetown, GW, and UVA hospital transplant lists but is also seeking to find a donor directly. He is asking for your prayers and anyone interested in donating. Please contact me, Michael Nye at nyegye@gmail.com.

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



CBN SOCIAL HOUR

The Prince William Chapter of the Catholic Business Network of Northern Virginia invites YOU to attend our February Social Hour on Thursday, February 16 at Three Monk’s Pub & Chophouse (9329 Main Street, Old Town Manassas) from 5:30-7:00 PM. Join us for a relaxing social hour, network with someone new, and strengthen our shared Catholic professional community.



Registration is only \$25, and includes appetizers and a chance to win in our raffle. Bring a raffle item to show off your business! Register on the CBN-NOVA website at:

<https://www.cbnnova.org/event-5078721>

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”
MATTHEW 5:16

The generosity of being a good steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people and it is contagious! Good works encourages more good works. Generosity is a by-product of a grateful lifestyle. The more we recognize God's gifts, the more we want to share them. Good stewards recognize that God is working through them and they don't put themselves above the people they have been called to help.

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

JOIN THE NATIVITY EXTENDED CARE TEAM
*Love working with Children? Creative with fingerpaint?
 Like to sift sand? The following qualifications are necessary:*

- A LOVE of children and a ‘Can-Do’ Attitude
- Afternoon availability, 2:30pm-6:00pm
- Diocesan compliance to work with kids
- Adhere to COVID-19 Safety Protocols

To apply, please contact: Jen Behan, Director at jbehan@nativityschool.org

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/>.



NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



4th Grade Rosary Challenge 1st Grade Wins!!

Our fourth graders invited the whole school community to participate in their Rosary Challenge! The first class to pray the Rosary as a whole class (together) – and post about it on the fourth grade Padlet – would receive special “Thank You” notes from the fourth graders!



As we prayed the Rosary proudly and publicly in our daily lives, the fourth grade class asked that we take a photo or short video. With parent permission, we posted and submitted our entries for the Rosary Challenge to the Padlet, along with a story or testimony of why we accepted the Rosary Challenge.



The Rosary Challenge Winner? The first grade! Our first graders were the first whole class to pray the Rosary together – congratulations!!

Join Us ~ WE HAVE A SEAT FOR YOUR CHILD

Thank you for coming to our recent OPEN HOUSE. We really enjoyed meeting and talking with all of you. We look forward to further discussions with you about your child/ren's academic future here at Nativity. For further information, please contact Shannon Murph at smurph@nativityschool.org.

Upcoming Dates At-A-Glance!

- Feb. 8: First Penance
- Feb. 9: Fourth Grade Field Trip
- Feb. 13: No School – Bishop’s Holiday
- Feb. 14: Valentine’s Day Dress Down Day
- Feb. 17: No School - Professional Development Day
- Feb. 20: No School – Presidents’ Day
- Feb. 22: Ash Wednesday

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



Sign Up For the Diocesan E-Newsletter!

Receive special video messages from our bishop, learn about unique opportunities to get involved, and be the first to know the news about our Diocese - straight to your inbox.
Sign up here: arlingtondiocese.org/email

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.

Young Adults Serve @ Christ House

All Young Adults (21-39) are invited to prepare and serve breakfast for the men of Christ House



When: Saturday, February 18 | 8 am
Where: 131 West Drive
Alexandria, VA 22312

Interested in serving?

Email Kathleen
kmerriman001@gmail.com

Love working with children? Want flexibility? Consider becoming a Lunch/Recess Monitor at Nativity School ...

*Part-Time Lunch/Recess Help Needed from
Monday - Friday, Approx. 10:30 am - 1:30 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.
- 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!



Pack 'n Play's Needed

'Making A Difference One Baby At A Time'

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. (Amazon wish list link below)

Feel free to contact Susan at swelchparis@stellamarina.org to coordinate pick up or leave in the parish office marked Stella Marina. Please see the Stella Marina website for more information. Thank you in advance on behalf of Stella Marina!

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/QY29UGH8OSQO/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_3?_encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist

For more information visit:
<https://nativityburke.org/packnplay-needed/>

Sorrowful Mysteries Silent Retreat for Women

As we prepare for Holy Week, join Fr. Noah Morey for a walk through of the Sorrowful Mysteries with a glimpse of the joy and glory on Sunday as we celebrate the Annunciation -- for Our Lady of Sorrows is also the cause of our joy. Retreat dates are Friday-Sunday, March 24-26. For further information visit our web page (www.arlingtondiocese.org/retreat-events). To register, please contact Deacon Mark Maines at mark.maines@arlingtondiocese.org.



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

Parish App Feature-of-the-Week



Inspiration
Daily

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

Learn more or download our parish app at myparishapp.com

*Available on Apple and Android Phones.

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/wwp/> 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 Deaconrfk@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.



Special Preview Open House for 5th, 6th & 7th Graders
Thursday, March 9, 4:00-5:30pm

It's never too early to start thinking about high school! Join us **Thursday, March 9, 4:00-5:30pm** for our Preview Open House. Get a first hand look at what life could be like as a student at John Paul. Meet our wonderful teachers, students, administration and coaches! Learn about our academics, athletics, clubs, spiritual life *and more!*

- Spiritual and Academic Leadership of the Dominican Sisters
- Experienced Faculty & Staff
- Accredited College Prep Curriculum, including AP, Dual Enrollment, and Honors Courses
- Unique Bioethics Program
- State-of-the-Art Classroom and Athletic Facilities
- Competitive Athletic Program
- Special Education: The Options Program
- Tuition Assistance and Transportation Options

Applications Now Being Accepted



*What's
New at JP*

- Jan 28, 1-3pm* Drama Workshop
- Feb-March* Adult Bioethics Seminars
- Mar 4, 9am-12pm* Super Science Saturday
- Mar 25, 9-11:30am* Boys Basketball Clinic
- May 6, 8am-12pm* Pre-HSPT/Parent How to HS

Summer Camps Coming Soon!

SAINT JOHN PAUL THE GREAT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

17700 DOMINICAN DRIVE, POTOMAC SHORES, VIRGINIA 22026 | 703-445-0246

www.jpthegreat.org

Directions: From I-95, exit 152-A/Dumfries. LEFT at Jefferson-Davis Hwy (US 1). RIGHT at River Heritage Rd., which ends at Dominican Drive.



The Catholic Diocese of Arlington Men's Conference 2023

My Soul Rejoices In The Lord!

March 4th

8:30am - 2:30pm

St. Joseph Catholic Church
750 Peachtree St.
Herndon, VA

Register at:
arlingtondiocese.org/men



**The Most Reverend
Michael F. Burbidge**
Bishop of Arlington
Mass Celebrant and Homilist



Tim Staples
Convert, Apologist at
Catholic Answers and author
of "Behold Your Mother"



**The Very Reverend
Thomas Petri, O.P.**
President, Pontifical Faculty of
the Immaculate Conception



Catholic Diocese of Arlington
Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life
(703) 841-2550 | familylife@arlingtondiocese.org

The Catholic Diocese of Arlington & Arlington Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

2023 Women's Conference

Love Rejoices In Truth

March 11th, 2023

8:30am to 2:30pm
St. Joseph Catholic Church
750 Peachtree St.
Herndon, VA 20170



The Most Reverend
Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington
Mass Celebrant and Homilist



Nikki Kingsley
Convert, Speaker
& Author of *"Thirst for Truth:
From Mohammad to Jesus"*

Register at:

arlingtondiocese.org/women



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

**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.**

BE RENEWED:

Developing a Deeper Relationship with the Holy Spirit

*You are invited into a more profound,
life-giving relationship with the Holy Spirit.
Enhance your Lenten journey!*

*Friday, March 24 from 6:30 – 9 pm and
Saturday, March 25 from 9:30 am – 4 pm*

*St Mary of Sorrows Parish Center,
5222 Sideburn Rd, Fairfax 22032*

This free workshop will feature:

- *Video Presentations with Fr. Dave Pivonka*
- *Personal testimonies*
- *Time for reflection*
- *Small group discussions*

*To register or for more information
email your name and phone number to
Logsoffireprayergroup@gmail.com or
call 703/425-0086*

Hosted by St Mary's Logs of Fire and Nativity's Love is Given prayer groups

Finding Jesus as

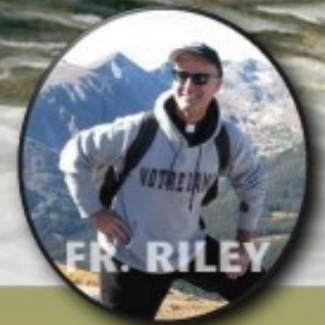
MEN after Christ's own Heart

SILENT RETREAT
MARCH 17-19
FRIDAY - SUNDAY
2023



*As a Band of Brothers we will gather at Christ's feet;
Single Men, Husbands, Fathers, and Priest...
listening and seeking Jesus in deep quiet prayer.*

Retreat Cost: \$285 (financial aid may be available)



Contact Fr. Riley: Retreat@SacredHeartWinchester.org

GATHER AT SAN DAMIANO RETREAT CENTER IN WHITE POST, VA

LENT 2023

Church of the Nativity

Rev. Robert C. Cilinski, Pastor

= a day of fasting and abstinence from meat

= a day of abstinence from meat

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (Easter Triduum). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert in fasting and prayer" (<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i>).</p>	<p>22 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Wear ashes today as a sign that you are seeking both forgiveness and eternal life from Christ.</p>	<p>23 Start a prayer book and record those for whom you pray or for what you pray. Also keep track of how God answers your prayers.</p>	<p>24 Catholics are required to abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent as a form of penance.</p>	<p>25 The Bible teaches us to deny ourselves and give instead to those in need. Read Matthew 6:1-4 to learn more about sacrificial almsgiving.</p>	<p>25 The Bible teaches us to deny ourselves and give instead to those in need. Read Matthew 6:1-4 to learn more about sacrificial almsgiving.</p>	<p>25 The Bible teaches us to deny ourselves and give instead to those in need. Read Matthew 6:1-4 to learn more about sacrificial almsgiving.</p>
<p>26 Imagine being responsible for all the souls in the world. Offer a Rosary for the intentions of the pope.</p>	<p>27 Ask God to show you what is keeping you from experiencing His love fully - worry, fears, sin. Resolve to deal with it by Easter.</p>	<p>28 Offer an extra small sacrifice for God, just for today - coffee without cream, lukewarm shower, no snacking, etc.</p>	<p>1 <i>March</i> Enjoy pretzels -- a traditional Lenten snack. The "crossed" arms of the pretzel recalled monks at prayer.</p>	<p>2 Today, look for opportunities to practice the virtues humility, patience, and kindness.</p>	<p>3 <i>First Friday</i> Attend Mass or visit the Blessed Sacrament (find the Him who is present to you).</p>	<p>4 Set up an empty box or bin. Throughout Lent, fill it with gently used clothes. Bring it to a local charity at the end of Lent.</p>
<p>5 After Mass today, go out to eat with other parishioners from church.</p>	<p>6 Dive deeper into your faith. Skim the glossary in the Catechism for an unfamiliar term and learn the Church's teaching about it.</p>	<p>7 Pick an issue in the news and pray over it today.</p>	<p>8 Figure out on which luxuries you spend the most money. Take a tenth of that amount and put it in the poor box at church.</p>	<p>9 Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for those who have no one to pray for them. Look here: https://www.usccb.org/prayers/divine-mercy-chaplet.</p>	<p>10 Resist "idle curiosity." Don't research trivial questions or follow every browser thread. Unless it's important, it's okay not knowing.</p>	<p>11 Pray for pregnant mothers and their babies. Consider donating to pro-life charities that help women in crisis.</p>
<p>12 Reread John 4:5-30. How is Christ calling you closer to Him? What "jug" would you leave behind?</p>	<p>13 Refuse to gossip, either in person or on screen. Affirm every person or keep silent.</p>	<p>14 Write down your worries. Place the list under a statue or image of Jesus. Pray, "Jesus, I surrender this to You. Take care of everything."</p>	<p>15 Attend Confession and experience God's mercy. Resolve to make amends where you can.</p>	<p>16 Check out Catholic Relief Services to see how you can support their projects. Look here: https://www.crs.org.</p>	<p>17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> In honor of St. Patrick, evangelize silently by wearing a symbol of your faith (e.g. a cross, medal).</p>	<p>18 Contact local shelters and soup kitchens and ask if they need volunteers.</p>
<p>19 <i>Laetare Sunday</i> Unless it's sinful, enjoy something you gave up for Lent in joyful anticipation of Easter!</p>	<p>20 <i>St. Joseph's Day</i> St. Joseph silently, selflessly cared for Mary and Jesus. Pray for fathers and entrust them to St. Joseph's care.</p>	<p>21 Do an act of kindness. Whether openly or secretly, do it for God's glory. It's really Him you're serving.</p>	<p>22 Take the box of clothes you set up on March 4 to a clothing drive.</p>	<p>23 Pray for an increased faith throughout the Church in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.</p>	<p>24 Practice patience... patiently. "Be patient with everyone, but first of all with yourself" (St. Francis de Sales).</p>	<p>25 <i>Annunciation of the Lord</i> Mary said "Yes!" to God's plan. Pray three Hail Marys, for the grace to give your "Yes" to Him, too.</p>
<p>26 Fast from unnecessary screen use today. Use the time to read a book, walk outside, pray.</p>	<p>27 This week, get up when the alarm goes off and offer your day to God's service.</p>	<p>28 Send your parish priests a "spiritual bouquet" — listing the prayers you'll offer for them (e.g. three Hail Marys, an Our Father).</p>	<p>29 Today, complete an errand or chore you've been putting off.</p>	<p>30 The Our Father is the prayer given to us by Jesus. Pray each line slowly. Really think about what you are saying.</p>	<p>31 Today, fast from complaining. Cultivate gratitude instead.</p>	<p>1 <i>April</i> Declutter, dust, and clean the house in preparation for Holy Week — the holiest time of the year.</p>
<p>2 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Display blessed palms around your home, "that the King of Glory may come in!" (Psalm 24:7)</p>	<p>3 Holy Week is a busy time for parishes. Stop by your parish office and ask how you can help.</p>	<p>4 Pray for those who are coming into the Church at the Easter Vigil.</p>	<p>5 Judas betrayed Christ. Consider how our sins betray Jesus and make a sincere Act of Contrition.</p>	<p>6 <i>Holy Thursday</i> Visit the Blessed Sacrament. Offer Him your love for the "lost hour" of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:40).</p>	<p>7 <i>Good Friday</i> Read the Passion Narrative, John 18, 19. See Jesus' offering of love for you. How will you respond?</p>	<p>8 <i>Holy Saturday</i> Renew your baptismal vows and commit to living your faith more fully this year.</p>

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday February 5

Isaiah 58:7-10
Ps 112:4-9 (4a)
1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Matthew 5:13-16

Monday February 6 Sts. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs

Genesis 1:1-19
Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10,
12, 24, 35c
Mark 6:53-56

Tuesday February 7

Genesis 1:20 – 2:4a
Ps 8:4-9
Mark 7:1-13

Wednesday February 8

Genesis 2:4b-9,15-17
Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28,
29bc-30
Mark 7:14-23

Thursday February 9

Genesis 2:18-25
Ps 128:1-5
Mark 7:24-30

Friday February 10

St. Scholastica
Genesis 3:1-8
Ps 32:1-2, 5-7
Mark 7:31-37

Saturday February 11

Genesis 3:9-24
Ps 90:2-4abc,5-6,12-13
Mark 8:1-10

Jesus tells us: "You are the salt of the earth." What does it mean to be salt? Think about what salt does. It adds flavor to foods that lack sufficient taste.

Jesus also raises the point that if we lose our flavor, how can it be restored? The answer is: Only by letting God renew us.

In your baptism, you were made flavorful – alive with God's love, peace, joy, etc. Fruitful Christians are those who evangelize by adding the seasoning of God's life – God's love, peace, joy, etc. – to the lives of the people around them.

But beware of trying too hard! What happens when food is oversalted? It tastes horrible. No matter how good our intentions might be, if we come on too strong, we do more harm than good.

People are much more likely to turn to Jesus if they first experience his love from us, his peace in how we treat them, and his joy in the way we live our lives. They need to discover that Jesus loves them just the way they are, that he is gentle but sincere when inviting them to grow spiritually, and that he can help them turn hardships and troubles into blessings and joys.

Jesus also tells us to be a light that others cannot help but notice – but not a light that blinds. To flavor the lives of others with the presence of Jesus, we have to let his light shine in us. We have to be so lit up by Christ that others cannot help but notice.

Additionally, Jesus says that we have to be a city. We cannot evangelize alone. A "city" is a group of Christians: a parish, a family, a church organization. Being Christian means being in community. When our light is joined to the light of others, our



collective glow is much more effective in revealing Christ to the world. Why? Because non-believers learn that the love of Christ is real when they see us living in love with each other: unconditionally, generously, with a servant's heart (see Acts 2:42-47).

We are the light of Christ for each other. We are seasoning for each other. Without each other, our light dims, our flavor fades, and we become useless to God's kingdom.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † In what ways have you oversalted someone by trying too hard or too often to evangelize? What were the results? What will you do to rectify this?
- † What obstructs the light of Christ within you? What in you needs to change so that the people around you can see him better?
- † What clues help us identify people whose lives are lacking the full flavor of Jesus' love? How could their lives be seasoned with the love of Jesus that is in you? And in your parish?

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

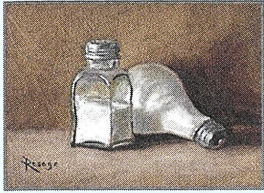
For confidential help / Para ayuda confidencial:

703.841.2504



helpafterabortion.org
instagram.com/afterabortioncare
facebook.com/HelpAfterAbortion





¿CON QUÉ SALAR Y CON QUIÉN ILUMINAR?

V Ordinario (A)

Javier Leoz

Aquel que a sí mismo se ha definido como “luz de mundo” nos pide en este domingo ser eso: ¡Luz para los demás!

¿Cómo llega la luz hasta nuestra casa? Preguntaba un niño a su padre. *Hijo; porque nuestra casa está unida por unos cables a una gran central eléctrica. Sin su fuerza no sería posible la luz en nuestro hogar.*

1. Los cristianos sólo podremos ser luminarias si estamos unidos, con todas las consecuencias, a esa gran fuente de energía espiritual, de gracia y de verdad que es Jesús.

Es inconcebible pensar que una acequia tenga caudal propio si no está adherida a un río, a una presa o a un manantial. Es difícil, muy difícil, llevar adelante nuestra tarea, el deseo de Jesús, de ser luz en medio de la oscuridad o sal en medio de tanta insipidez que abunda en nuestro mundo si no permanecemos en comunión plena con El.

Sólo Cristo es capaz de alumbrar, con luz verdadera, las sombras que se ciernen sobre la humanidad. Sólo Cristo, a través de pequeñas lámparas que son/somos los laicos comprometidos por su reino, es capaz de ofrecer sabor de eternidad y de felicidad a tantos hombres y mujeres que, en el horizonte de sus vidas, no ven sino fracaso, hastío o cansancio. ¿Seremos valientes para abrir el salero de nuestra vida cristiana allá donde se están cocinando los destinos de nuestra sociedad? ¿Por qué –frecuentemente– preferimos pasar desapercibidos sin dar color cristiano a tantas situaciones que reclaman nuestra opinión o presencia activa como seguidores de Cristo?

2. “Salar e iluminar” son dos responsabilidades de la vida cristiana. Cuando nos desvirtuamos y pierde vitalidad nuestra fe; cuando la escondemos o disimulamos en los sótanos de nuestra vida privada... algo grave está ocurriendo.

¿A quién tenemos que llevar? ¿Con quién tenemos que iluminar? Ni más ni menos que a Cristo y con Cristo. Ya sabemos que, la acción, no es lo más importante de nuestra condición cristiana pero, también es verdad, que muchas veces por falsos respetos o por excesiva tolerancia... tenemos vergüenza y hasta cierto temor a presentarnos como lo que somos (como católicos) y de ofertar a nuestro mundo, a nuestro pueblo o ciudades un estilo de vida basado en el evangelio de Jesucristo. ¿Por qué? Ni más ni menos porque, a veces, resulta más gratificante diluirse en el “todo vale” o adentrarse en los túneles de una vida cómoda y sin más límites que la propia conciencia.

Ser sal y luz, con palabras inspiradas por el Espíritu Santo y con buenas obras como testimonio de nuestra comunión con Cristo ha de ser nuestra apuesta personal y nuestro convencimiento de que, con el Señor, el mundo puede ir mejor... con más sabor y con más luz para el futuro del hombre.

HAZME, SEÑOR, SER SAL Y LUZ

Que, lejos de falsificar mi vida,
la mantenga soldada a tu gracia,
alimentada por tu Palabra
y sostenida con tu mano salvadora.
Que siendo, Tú, el salero de mi existencia
cuentes conmigo, Señor,
para sazonar oportunamente tantas situaciones
que reclaman ilusión y fuerza,
alegría y optimismo, dignidad y verdad,
Que siendo, Tú, la fuente de la luz
cuentes conmigo, Señor,
para alumbrar miserias y soledades,
tristezas y angustias, aflicciones y pruebas
luchas y tribulaciones
en las que combaten tantos hombres

HAZME, SEÑOR, SER SAL Y LUZ

Que dé gusto, no a lo que el mundo quiere,
y sí a una nueva forma de vivir y de sentir
Que ofrezca, la luz de tu presencia,
a los que viven como si no existieras
a los que, creyendo en Ti,
caminan como si el Evangelio no conocieran
Que sepa ser conservante como la sal:
que guarde, para mí y para los demás,
tu gracia y poder, mi fe y mi fidelidad
mi oración y mi confianza en Ti.

(Javier Leoz)

QUE NO PUEDA CONMIGO, SEÑOR

La oscuridad del error
La tiniebla de la incredulidad
ni la sombra de la duda
QUE NO ME VENZA, SEÑOR
La insipidez del consumismo
La insulsez del simple humanismo
ni lo artificial que el mundo me vende
QUE NO PUEDA CONMIGO, SEÑOR
El relativismo que todo lo invade
La mediocridad de lo pasajero y estéril
Lo práctico pero, tarde o temprano, inseguro
Lo irracional de muchas formas de vida
QUE NO ME VENZA, SEÑOR
(Javier Leoz)



¿Es la Eucaristía una cosa sagrada?

La Eucaristía NO ES UNA COSA, aunque le pongamos el adjetivo de sagrada. La Eucaristía ES UNA PERSONA; es la presencia de una PERSONA SANTÍSIMA: Jesucristo Nuestro Señor

¿Es la Eucaristía una cosa sagrada?

Si lo fuera seríamos idólatras y, por cierto, de los más vulgares, baratos y corrientes.

Sin embargo, cada vez que hago esta pregunta, la respuesta rápida es: ¡sí!

Por alguna razón el Pueblo de Dios ha mantenido esta idea corrupta de la Eucaristía, en su mente y en su corazón, que pervierte sus sentimientos hacia quien está presente en los dones consagrados.

Y es que la Eucaristía NO ES UNA COSA, aunque le pongamos el adjetivo de sagrada.

La Eucaristía ES UNA PERSONA; es la presencia de una PERSONA SANTÍSIMA: Jesucristo Nuestro Señor, El Verbo Eterno, la Segunda Persona de la Santísima Trinidad.

Quizá en parte se deba a que se le designan sus características con palabras que, fuera de un contexto complementario que manifieste su calidad de persona, en principio dan idea de cosas.

Así sucede con las palabras como sacramento, santísimo o Santísimo Sacramento con que se ha designado a la Presencia Santa durante siglos.

Y no es que esas palabras designen algo que no es.

La Eucaristía es verdaderamente un sacramento. El Señor no se presenta con un cuerpo físico como hace dos mil años lo fué Jesús de Nazaret, sino que se presenta como signo en los dones consagrados, es decir, como sacramento.

Igualmente, es verdaderamente Santísimo --o Santísima (Eucaristía) --; es el Señor "tres veces santo"; es aquel de quien se dice "ángeles y querubines dicen santo, santo, santo".

Como Dios Hijo es verdaderamente el Santísimo que se presenta como Sacramento. Es realmente el Santísimo Sacramento.

El problema está, como se dijo antes, que esas palabras tienen que ir complementadas con otras que afirmen y confirmen que el Santísimo, o el Santísimo Sacramento, es una Persona.

Por ejemplo, en las preces litánicas para la reserva del Santísimo Sacramento se dice maravillosamente: "Bendito sea JESÚS en el Santísimo Sacramento del Altar".

En nuestro Ritual Nacional, en México, se dice: "¡CRISTO, Pan Celestial, danos la vida eterna!"

La Adoración Nocturna Española tiene como su lema de presentación; ¡Adorado sea JESÚS Sacramentado!

Frases acordes a esta necesidad serían: "El Señor Jesús en el Santísimo Sacramento"; "El Señor de la Eucaristía"; "Nuestro Señor Jesucristo Sacramentado"... y así de forma semejante.

Con la palabra eucaristía sucede lo mismo. Igualmente, al usarla sin su contexto de persona, como primera idea se entiende una cosa.

Alguien podría decir, peyorativamente, que se es perfeccionista. Entonces pregúntese si es válido el actual desprestigio del Resucitado, el Viviente de la Eucaristía, que se observa en los ambientes de fe, tan infestados, más en otras latitudes, de relativismo infantil.

Para muchas otras fiestas y celebraciones religiosas, hay ocasiones en que se derrocha gusto y fervor, se hacen las inmensas peregrinaciones. ¿Cuántas peregrinaciones grandiosas, al menos en nuestro país, se harán a Guadalajara con motivo del Congreso Eucarístico Internacional, para acudir al llamado del Señor de la Eucaristía, Nuestro Dios y Señor Jesucristo? ¿O siquiera peregrinaciones sencillas? Quizá se realicen de estas últimas; pero pocas.

Es que la cosa no llama, no se le escucha; la cosa solo sirve para usarse utilitariamente.

Pero si sabemos que quien llama es una persona, se pondrá más atención al llamado. Y si amamos a esa Persona, porque sabemos que nos ama con amor divino e infinito, más fácilmente acudiremos a su llamado; es que no podemos quedar mal con ALGUIEN que amamos y que sabemos que nos ama.

San Pedro Julián Eymard, Apóstol de la Eucaristía, observa:

"La Eucaristía es la Persona del Señor...La Sagrada Eucaristía es Jesús pasado, presente y futuro... Es Jesús hecho Sacramento". Y con palabras que son válidas en nuestros días, también dice: "El gran mal de nuestra época es que no vemos a Jesucristo como su salvador y a su Dios. Se abandona el único fundamento, la única fe, la única gracia de la salvación... Entonces ¿qué hacer? Regresar a la fuente de la vida, pero no al Jesús histórico o al Jesús glorificado en el cielo sino al Jesús que está en la Eucaristía..."

El Pueblo de Dios merece que se le anuncie la verdad sobre el Viviente que está con nosotros en la Eucaristía.

Que sepa que Dios misericordioso ha puesto su tienda junto a la nuestra: "Y el Verbo se hizo carne y habitó entre nosotros..." (Jn 1, 14). "He aquí que Yo estoy con ustedes todos los días hasta el fin del mundo" (Mt 28, 20). "No los voy a dejar huérfanos; volveré para estar con ustedes. Dentro de poco, los que son del mundo ya no me verán; pero ustedes me verán y vivirán porque Yo vivo" (Jn 14, 18-19).

El Señor Jesús, en la Eucaristía, se ha hecho, por amor, nuestro vecino, nuestro amigo, nuestro confidente, nuestro prójimo.

Es la Persona del Santísimo Sacramento, la Eucaristía, que, brazo al hombro, nos va contando de cómo Él va preparando nuestra historia rumbo a la patria prometida y de cómo, en comunión con Él, compartimos el mismo destino: la instauración del Reino.

¡Adorado sea el Santísimo Sacramento! ¡Ave María Purísima!



“Hagan brillar su luz delante de todos, para que ellos puedan ver las buenas obras de ustedes y alaben al Padre que está en el cielo.”

MATEO 5:16

¡La generosidad de ser un buen administrador de sus dones tiene un efecto positivo sobre la gente y es contagioso! Las buenas obras animan a hacer más buenas obras. La generosidad es un subproducto de un estilo de vida agradecido. Cuanto más reconocemos los dones de Dios, más queremos compartirlos. Los buenos administradores reconocen que Dios obra a través de ellos y no se ponen por encima de las personas a las que Dios los ha llamado a ayudar.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

February 2023

Church of the Nativity

Rev. Robert C. Cilinski, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Flee temptation

Christians are meant for Heaven.

Yet, the world can work against our efforts for holiness. St. Peter tells us to "escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires" (2 Peter 1:4). Ask God often to protect you from sin, to give you the wisdom and courage to make good choices and, become sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. God will reveal when you've messed up, and rejoice with you when you get it right.



Serve without complaint

Every job has aspects about it that are tedious, messy, and unrewarding, yet they are necessary. However, they can be opportunities to grow in virtue: humility, patience, self-discipline, etc. When you dread doing your work, smile and say a prayer, "and your Father, who sees in secret, will repay you" (Matthew 6:4).

"The works of God are all of them good; in its own time every need is supplied" (Sirach 39:16).



Take steps to share your faith during Lent

Jesus didn't intend for the Great Commission – "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19) – to be a heavy burden.

He meant witnessing to His love to come through the natural course of living a Christ-inspired life. Consider making more disciples this Lent:

Live a Catholic life. Non-believers may hear what we say about Jesus, but they are persuaded by seeing how our love for Him shapes our lives. It is critical that worship – Sunday Mass, Confession, Scripture – informs our life choices. When we spend time in Jesus' presence, His character rubs off on us.

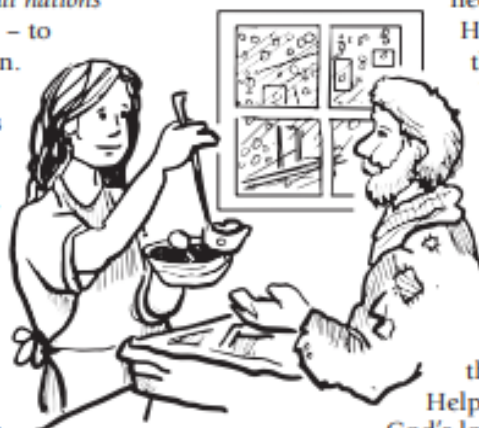
Bring Christ out into the world. Jesus asked that we care for the poor and needy, thus acting as

His hands and feet in the world. We may not be able to solve all of their problems, but we can show them the reality of Christ's love in their lives.

Talk about God's plan. God wants us each to experience the peace He offers.

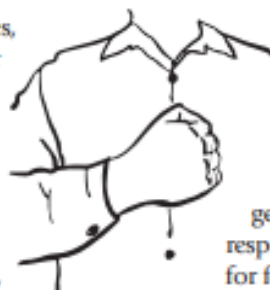
Help others know that God's love is personal and He has a specific plan for each of us.

Invite. Some people will be ready to "come and see," so consider inviting seekers to Mass. Others might be ready to "take up and read." Share your favorite inspirational reading. If you need other suggestions, ask your pastor or favorite religious.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

When we use our voices, our minds, and even our bodies during prayer, we pray with deeper meaning and enthusiasm. During the Confiteor at Mass, for example, we strike our chest three times, saying,



Why do Catholics strike their chests?

"through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault." It's an ancient symbol of sorrow and repentance for having offended God or hurting our neighbor. Such a gesture reminds us to take responsibility for our actions and pray for forgiveness and grace to change.

Lent leads us back to God

"For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment" (Joel 2:13). Lent may be a penitential season, but it is also a wonderful reminder that no matter how we let sin interfere in our relationship with God, He always wants us back. Gracious and merciful is He.

"Return to me with your whole heart." Throughout the year, sin creeps into our daily lives almost without our noticing. A bad habit such as using bad language or gossiping can keep



us from loving God fully. Lent is a time to examine our lives and sweep aside whatever keeps us from giving God our whole heart.

"Rend your hearts, not your garments." God doesn't just want outward acts of repentance. Our Father wants a change of heart. Start with Confession and then practice virtues such as prudence, temperance, and fortitude.

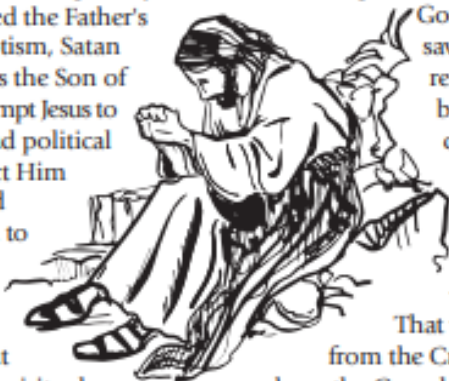
"Gather the people, notify the congregation." Become more active in your parish to build it up. Consider attending Mass more often than just once a week.

from Scripture

Matthew 4:1-11, Victory in the wilderness

In this passage, Jesus is tempted by the devil. Having witnessed the Father's declaration at His baptism, Satan tested Jesus' identity as the Son of God. His goal was to tempt Jesus to embrace an earthly and political mission and to distract Him from the suffering and death that would lead to the world's salvation.

Satan tempted Jesus to satisfy His hunger with a miracle – to put physical needs above spiritual needs. In His response, Jesus taught us to put spiritual needs first and to entrust both body and soul to God's care. Next, Satan commanded Jesus to jump from



the temple roof in an effort to force God to miraculously save Him. Again, Jesus refused. God is not to be forced or controlled.

Finally, Satan offered to surrender all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus would worship him. That would save Jesus from the Cross. Instead, Jesus chose the Cross because it was the only way to save us. When tempted to do what's "easy" versus what's morally right, ask for the strength to choose what's right.

Q & A What's a simple way to explain the Faith, if asked?

St. Peter says to be ready to *"account for the hope that is in you"* (1 Peter 3:15). Consider using this simple, five-point explanation, inspired by Bishop Michael Jackels:

Pinky: The smallest finger recalls our weakness and need for a Savior.



Although Jesus redeemed us, we're still weak and must pray for God's graces daily.

Ring finger: To save us, Jesus took on our human nature, "wedding" Himself to us. At Sunday Mass, we worship God and become one with Him in Holy Communion.

Middle finger: Jesus was raised up on the Cross for sins, then raised from the dead. We attend Confession monthly and receive the saving graces. We hope to be raised to eternal life.

Pointer: Jesus' call is universal, yet personal. He singled you out and chose you to follow Him; only you can give Jesus your "Yes" – in word and deed.

Thumb: Lastly, hitchhikers point their thumbs to ask, "Are you on my way?" Likewise, we're called to ask, "Are you going His Way?" (John 14:6).

Feasts & Celebrations

Lent begins February 22, and is devoted to the Passion of Our Lord. One form of observance is to pray the Stations of the Cross and meditate on Jesus' walk to Calvary.

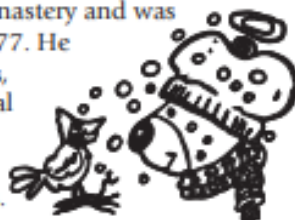
February 1 – St. Brigid of Ireland (525). Born to an Irish chieftain and an enslaved mother in Ireland, St. Brigid founded a monastery for monks and nuns at Kildare and served as abbess until her death.

February 11 – Our Lady of Lourdes (1858). A heavenly "lady" appeared to St. Bernadette Soubirous, a poor girl

from a village in France and a miraculous spring emerged from a nearby cave. The "lady" revealed herself as the "Immaculate Conception," the Blessed Virgin Mary.

February 22 – Ash Wednesday. The first day of Lent. Ashes are placed on the foreheads as a sign of penance.

February 27 – St. Gregory of Narek (1003). Born in Armenia to a devout Christian family, St. Gregory entered the Narek Monastery and was ordained in 977. He wrote treatises, letters, mystical poems, and Scripture commentaries.



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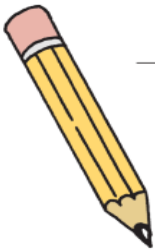
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What did Jesus say we need in order to enter the kingdom of heaven?

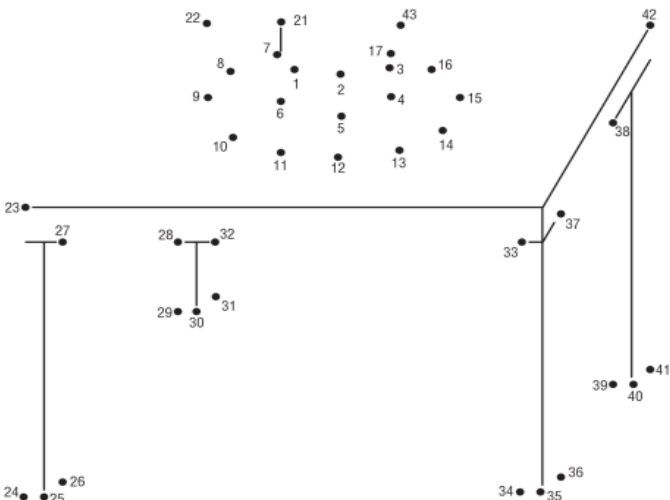
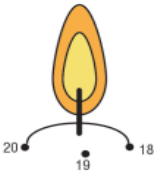
Cross out the following letters: B C D J K L M Q V W X Y Z. Then, write the remaining letters in order on the lines below

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



Jesus also said: "People don't light a lamp and then hide it. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house."

Connect the dots.



Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+ February 5, 2023 • Matthew 5:13-20

Salt and Light

Fill in the letters on the lines below to find something Jesus said.
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



Use the code to fill in the blanks.

☆ = B	🔦 = G	☀️ = M	🕯️ = R	🕯️ = Y
🌙 = D	🌍 = H	🕯️ = N	💡 = S	
💡 = F	🕯️ = L	🔥 = P	🕯️ = T	

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and glorify your Father in heaven.”

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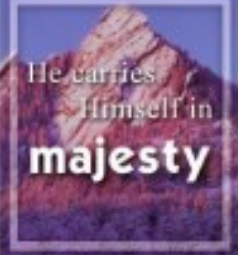


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