



**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.

6th
 Sunday
 in
 Ordinary
 Time

6^o
 Domingo
 del
 Tiempo
 Ordinario



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



Dear Parishioners,

Lent will soon be upon us and we are challenged to change our hearts and our lives through prayers, fasting and almsgiving. The gospel of Matthew offers much to reflect upon as we seek to imitate Jesus and follow the way of the Cross. As disciples of the Lord, we are challenged by the radical demands that Jesus expects of his disciples. Following in the footsteps of Moses and other prophetic voices, Jesus proclaims the Good News of God's love and forgiveness; and, at the same time, offers a revolutionary way to live: *"Turn the other cheek! Love your enemies! Be reconciled!"* The ongoing challenge to live and love and forgive as Jesus did remains at the heart of what it means to be Church, the Body of Christ! Do we practice what we preach?

I look forward to being together this week for our Parish Mission *"the Spirituality of Relationships"* with Fr. Simeon Gallagher. It will be a special time of God's Grace and love.

Love and Blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski
Fr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

**K of C APPALACHIA COLLECTION LAST UPDATE:
GOAL MET!!**

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! For your tremendous outpouring of support to build Nativity's 25th home for the Creekmore Family. We have exceeded our goal of \$100,000 and are now at \$104,943... and contributions continue to arrive daily. Any excess donations will be held in contingency and funds not used will carry over for next years' home. 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 would like 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.



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.

Nativity Catholic Church

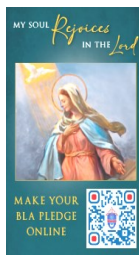
**Ash Wednesday
February 22
Mass Schedule**



- 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 ABSTINANCE
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.

**The 2023 Bishop's Lenten Appeal -
Commitment Weekend**



2023 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA): *"My soul rejoices in the Lord."* This weekend each household is asked to make a BLA pledge or gift. This appeal provides an opportunity to unite as a Catholic family to support programs, ministries and services helping tens of thousands of people. After reflecting upon God's blessings to you, please consider a BLA pledge. You may complete a pledge card at Mass, mail in your pledge, go online to www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code to make a gift.

Beloved Nativity Family,

Greetings and happy new year! It was wonderful getting to see many of you last Christmas. I was profoundly blessed by our Lord to receive the opportunity to go on pilgrimage to the Holy Land with my classmates from December 27 through January 6. In summary, getting to walk the footsteps of Jesus, Mary, Joseph, the Apostles, and the earliest disciples was absolutely life changing for me. The trip was truly an experience of renewal, especially as I approach ordination to the priesthood in 4 short months!



Two brief highlights from the pilgrimage: getting to see the sunrise at the Sea of Galilee and visiting the pit in which Jesus was imprisoned the night before His death under the High Priest Caiphas' house. I was brought to tears (honestly, throughout the entire pilgrimage) witnessing the very sunrise Jesus would have seen. It was from the Sea of Galilee that He called His first Apostles, and in this moment I felt as if He were renewing His call for me to follow Him with my life. In the pit of his imprisonment, I got to proclaim Psalm 88 and reflect on how Jesus willingly chose to enter into the darkness of Good Friday -- and therefore chooses to enter into the moments of darkness that we encounter ourselves. We are never alone and are constantly pursued by a loving God.

In Bethlehem I especially prayed for all of you, Nativity Parishioners, and all of your intentions from the Church of the Nativity (attached photo) that is built above the site in which the Savior of the World was born that first Christmas day. May the Lord continue to bless all of you and your loved ones. See you all during Holy Week. Please stay in touch!

In Him, Deacon Zinjin Iglesia



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 **teachers lounge** (different location). 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!

On This Date in Nativity History 25 February 1998

(Our thanks to Jim McDaniel for the material from which this note is adapted.)

On 25 February 1998, Ash Wednesday began Father Richard Martin's second Lenten season as Nativity pastor, and he made it memorable by launching the giving campaign that eventually became Operation Starfish. The story began with a late evening stroll by Father Richard Martin and his dog, "Pete," when Father began to speculate: What if each family in the parish would forego one order of French fries? What if they would subtract one topping from their weekly pizza?

How much money could they raise to help those in need? Fr. Martin couldn't believe the numbers when he calculated them: 2,500 families saving just 50 cents a day for the 40 days of Lent could donate \$50,000 to make a difference in the lives of the poor. What a significant result from such an insignificant sacrifice!

This simple program of sacrifice was far more successful than Fr. Martin predicted. That first year, Nativity parishioners raised over \$67,000! They decided to use the funds to build 27 simple houses in Haiti, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere, working through the international Christian charity, Food For The Poor, Inc. The name, "Operation Starfish," came in the second year. In February 1999, a dozen Nativity parishioners accompanied Fr. Martin on a mission trip to Haiti, to see for themselves what had been done. Despite the progress in the first project, the Nativity parishioners knew there was much more to be done. At a reflection meeting the Virginians spoke of being overwhelmed with the scope of the problem. "How can we possibly make a difference?" one asked. Searching for an answer, Fr. Martin told his parishioners the now well-known story of the young boy and the starfish. A parishioner spoke up after Fr. Martin finished the story. "Why don't we call our work 'Operation Starfish'?" he asked. Heartened by the Starfish story, and renewed by their mission trip, Church of the Nativity parishioners recommitted themselves to helping the poor, at home as well as in Haiti. As of late 2021, Nativity had provided some \$7.6 million in funding and \$2.6 million in goods-in-kind to build more than 1,500 homes in Haiti. The program has now expanded far beyond home construction to include schools, clinics, deep-sea fishing equipment, scholarships for medical training, and much more. The number of people whose lives have been improved by Starfish is incalculable but surely runs in the many tens of thousands.

This historical note is the 36th of a weekly Bulletin feature leading up to Nativity's fiftieth anniversary, 11 June 2023.

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. Thank you!

Nativity Catholic Church



ENTER INTO LENT

Participate in any of the following events & opportunities to help make your Lent fruitful

Parish Mission | February 13, 14, 15, 16 | 7:00 pm

Lenten Fish Fry | February 24 | March 31 | 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Confessions | Wednesdays in March | 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Stations of the Cross | Fridays | 7:00 pm English | 8:00 pm Spanish

Soup Suppers | March 1, 8, 15, 22 | 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Peace and Justice Conference | March 11 | 6:00 pm

Mark Forrest Evening of Prayer | March 29 | 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Lenten Penance Service | March 30 | 6:30 pm

Youth Ministry Living Stations | March 31 | 7:00 pm

For more information about each of these opportunities,
please visit the Nativity website: www.nativityburke.org



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**

EARLY BIRD TICKETS - FEBRUARY 15th!!

The auction committee invites you to join us for an evening of delicious tapas & cervezas, fun & friendship along with an overflowing live and silent auction to help raise funds for Nativity Catholic School! All proceeds will help provide financial assistance for STEM and student enrichment activities such as school field trips, scholarships, and other needs which directly impact our students' continued success. Stay for dancing & live music by Sol y Rumba! Early bird tickets (\$50) for the auction will go on sale starting February 15th!

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

**Catholic Investments for Catholic Families
Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors' advisory services**



Learn more about our faith-based investments at our upcoming Catholic Financial Planning Seminar and Social.

February 28, at 7:30 PM

Quinn Room, Holy Spirit School
8800 Braddock Rd.,
Annandale, VA 22003



**Knights of
Columbus
Asset Advisors®**

abbatekofc.com/events
1-866-868-1492
The Abbate Agency



KoCAA is an SEC registered investment adviser that maintains a principal place of business in the State of Connecticut. For information about KoCAA's business operations, please consult the Firm's Form ADV disclosure documents, the most recent versions of which are available on the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, LLC, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Knights of Columbus, the world's largest Catholic Lay Organization. Knights of Columbus does not offer investment products outside of the affiliated products offered through KoCAA. © Knights of Columbus, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510

Be Renewed: Developing a Deeper Relationship with the Holy Spirit - Enhance your Lenten journey

You are invited into a more profound, life-giving relationship with the Holy Spirit. This workshop will help lead you to know more of God's presence and power, enabling you to fully live the abundant life for which you were created.

Program includes videos featuring: Fr. Dave Pivonka, President, Franciscan University of Steubenville, personal testimonies, small group discussions and time for personal reflection. Come and "Be Renewed." The workshop is free and will be held Friday, March 24 from 6:30-9:00pm and Saturday, March 25 from 9:30am-4:00pm at St. Mary of Sorrows Parish Center, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. It is hosted by St. Mary's, Logs of Fire and Nativity's Love is Given prayer groups.

To register or for more information on making this workshop part of your Lenten journey, email your name, email address and phone number to logsoffireprayergroup@gmail.com. Come Holy Spirit!

Lenten Soup Suppers!

**March 1, 8, 15, 22
Nativity Cafeteria | 5:30-7:00 pm**

Donate soup and break bread with your Nativity family to support parish ministries.



DONATIONS AT THE DOOR WILL BENEFIT THE FOLLOWING NATIVITY MINISTRIES:

- March 1 - Youth Ministry
- March 8 - Girl Scouts
- March 15 - WorkCamp Teens
- March 22 - Women of Nativity

DONATE A SOUP!
For details and directions, see the parish website or scan below.



Calling Adult Volunteers!

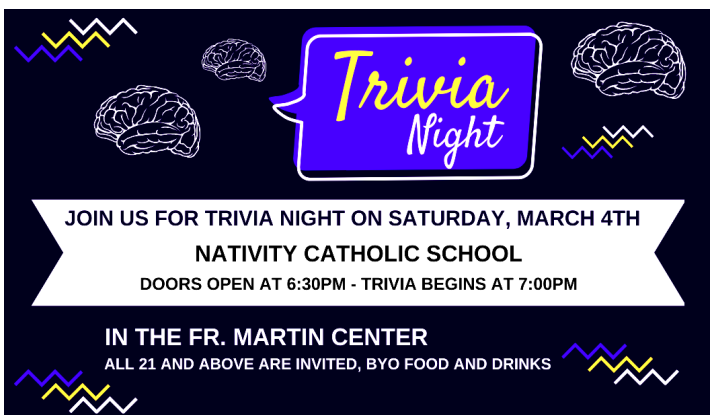
WorkCamp: June 17-23, 2023



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



Trivia Night

**JOIN US FOR TRIVIA NIGHT ON SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH
NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM - TRIVIA BEGINS AT 7:00PM**

**IN THE FR. MARTIN CENTER
ALL 21 AND ABOVE ARE INVITED, BYO FOOD AND DRINKS**

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!



**SPONSORED BY
THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
FR. SIKORA COUNCIL 7992**

NATIVITY LENTEN FISH FRY

**THE FIRST LENTEN FISH FRY WILL TAKE PLACE ON
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH, 2023
SERVING FROM 5:30PM - 8:00PM
DINE IN THE PARISH HALL OR TAKE A BOX TO GO**

Advance tickets:

Reserve your time slot after Mass on 2/11, 2/12, 2/18 or 2/19
Adults \$11.00 and Children under 12 \$5.00 (Kids Menu)

Tickets at the door:

Limited Space will be available
Adults \$12.00 and Children under 12 \$5.00 (Kids Menu)

Adult menu: fried or baked fish, french fries, hush puppies, coleslaw and dessert

Kid's menu: fish sticks, french fries, hush puppies, coleslaw and dessert

**For more information
Contact Barry Basselgia—bbasselgia@gmail.com**



MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, February 13th

7:30 am Special Int. for Sanchia Fernandes

Tuesday, February 14th

7:30 am † Michael Brensy
12:00 pm † Joseph Qsborne

Wednesday, February 15th

7:30 am † Dominick Brugnolotti
(BHC) 3:00 pm Special Int. for Fr. Bob Cilinski

Thursday, February 16th

7:30 am † Carolyn Massone
12:00 pm † Michael Oates

Friday, February 17th

7:30 am Special Int. for Theresa Bresnahan

Saturday, February 18th

9:00 am † Kin-Pang Yu
5:00 pm Special Int. for Ava Meiwang
Bresnahan
7:00 pm † Jaime Ruiz

Sunday, February 19th

7:00 am † Maria Angelica Soriano
9:00 am † Carlos Alfonso
11:00 am Spec. Int. for Victoria Shia's Family
1:00 pm † Aninyou Aatef Erian Morkos
5:30 pm † Aatef Erian Morkos

**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.

YOUNG ADULTS

You're Invited to Serve at Christ House!

This is a great opportunity for fellowship and to put our faith into action as we prepare breakfast for the 8 residents who live there in a transitional housing program. They love eggs, bacons, and pastries!

When: February 18 at 8:00 am
Where: Christ House, 131 S. West Street,
Alexandria, VA 22314

**Want to learn more: email
Kathleen at kmerriman001@gmail.com**

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Join us Friday, February 17th at 7:30pm for Eucharistic Adoration with Praise and Worship.

Father Bresnahan will lead us with a short reflection and then offer confessions during the hour. Come spend some time face to face with our Lord! This will be our last Praise and Worship until after Easter, so we hope to see you there!



Dear parishioners,

In January 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 charisma 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

Fr. Bob Cilinski,
Pastor

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.

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 fingerprint?
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

TURKEY EARTHQUAKE VICTIM DONATIONS COLLECTING NOW THROUGH TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 IN THE NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH NARTHEX

**WE ARE COLLECTION THE FOLLOWING ITEMS
IN NEW OR LIKE NEW CONDITION:**

- **BLANKETS**
- **TENTS**
- **SLEEPING BAGS**
- **POCKET WARMERS / HAND WARMERS**
- **BABY FORMULA**
- **DIAPERS**
- **TODDLER SNOWSUITS**
- **GENERAL & FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS**
- **FIRST AID KITS**
- **OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS FOR FLU, COLD & PAIN KILLERS**
- **WINTER CLOTHING FOR ADULTS FEMALE / MALE & CHILDREN OF ALL AGES**
- **JACKETS, RAINCOATS, GLOVES, HEADGEAR, SWEATERS, SCARVES, WINTER SHOES**
- **NEW ONLY: SOCKS, UNDERWEAR, THERMAL CLOTHES & THERMAL UNDERWEAR**
- **POWER BANKS**

**NO TIME TO SHOP? NO PROBLEM! CASH & GIFT CARDS
HAPPILY ACCEPTED & WE WILL DO THE SHOPPING FOR YOU
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

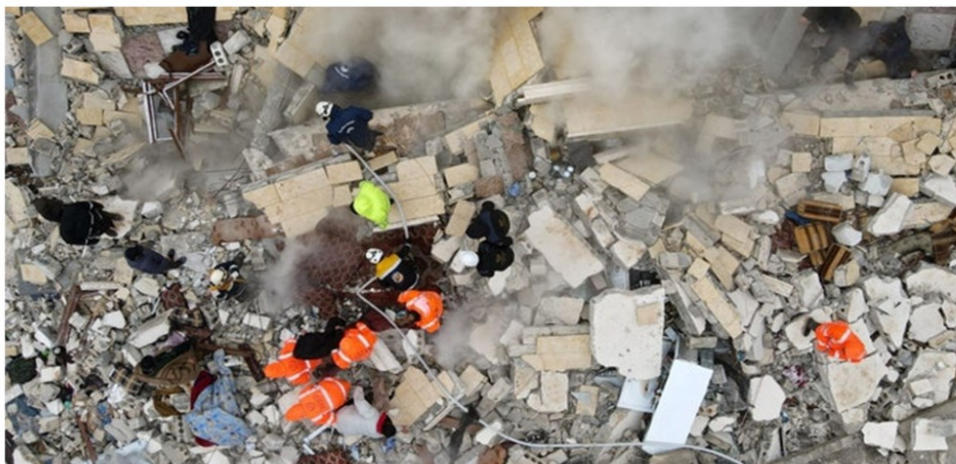
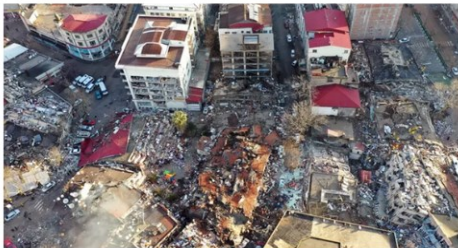
**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ANY QUESTIONS, EMAIL
AYSE KENNER AT: AKENNER@NATIVITYBURKE.ORG**



In partnership with the Turkish Embassy in D.C., Nativity is responding by sending urgently needed aid to those suffering in the aftermath of this catastrophe.

Your contribution of essential items or cash/gift card donations will help us provide emergency relief for victims of the 7.8 and 7.5 magnitude Earthquakes that were followed by hundreds of aftershocks, striking 10 provinces in Turkey and Syria.

This catastrophe is affecting over 13 million people: it killed more than 11,000 and counting, injured thousands, demolished thousands of buildings, and left even more homeless and in dire need of emergency aid.





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 to the poor. If you have a truck or van and can occasionally help deliver to Springfield Friday evenings contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com.

Charity Art Auction: 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.

Lenten Fish Fry: First fish fry of the season will be in the Nativity Cafeteria on 24 February. Sign up to help within ticket sales and the event on the linktree. There is limited seating, so reserve your seating time on the linktree.

Retirement Strategies Webinar: Join us for an informative online presentation by award-winning author, financial thought leader, and brother Knight Joe Jordan. Feb 23, 2023 at 07:00 PM. Sign up on the linktree.

Catholic Financial Planning Seminar: All parishioners are invited to attend this event by the Abbate Agency on February 28, 7:30 p.m. in the Quinn Room at Holy Spirit School, 8800 Braddock Road. Register on the linktree.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance: Parish-wide event back after 3 year hiatus on 18 March! Contact Br. Pat Bradshaw at pbradshaw2@verizon.net to help.

Yard Sale: We need area leads and assistant leads to commit to supporting the collection period as well as the date of the sale June 15-24th. You don't have to be a Knight to help. Sign up on the linktree.

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, 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 "blessedmccgivney". 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.

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

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

When school is out, STEM is in! Code Ninja camps offer an immersive environment for kids to explore and develop new skills, gain confidence and have fun with friends! Attend a summer STEM half-day camp at Code Ninja. Camp topics include coding, game-building, animation, Minecraft®, Roblox, 3D modeling & printing, Becoming a YouTuber, LEGO® Robotics, and more. This item, as well as other camps, will be available at the Auction! This item, as well as other camps, 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

WE NEED YOU! Your Nativity Creation Care Ministry has more ideas than volunteers! Do you have interests related to caring for God's creation? Teaching, writing, advocating, gardening, repairing, organizing, hosting or promoting; working with kids, teens, adults; interest in native plants, fair trade, climate change, nature, waste management, composting, water use, environmental justice, solar, plant based eating and so much more? Whether you would like to work on just one project or participate in one event or have greater ambitions to adopt Creation Care as your parish ministry, we would love to hear from you! Please contact Kim and George Young at nativitycreationcare@gmail.com or 703-969-6303. Pope Francis calls each of us to live Laudato Si and we have a place for you to make a difference!





NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



Catholic Schools Week 2023 At-A-Glance
Catholic Schools Week 2023 was a faith-filled, fun-filled, worthy, and wondrous week for all of us!

It all began the last Sunday in January, with 9 a.m. Mass followed by an Open House at our school. We met so many new people! Thank you to all of you for taking the time to stop by to see how your child would spend his/her days here with us.



On Monday, we began with a Vocations presentation by Father Bob and his Religious Team, each of them – the Sisters, Father Bob, and Father Bresnahan, describing to us how each found the way to God.

Right after, our Eighth Graders hosted local Seniors at a Bingo event, offering prizes, food, and fun. Later that afternoon, a Middle School Spelling Bee was held. The winners? Earning First Place: Sixth Grader Isabella Paluzsay. Runner-Up: Eighth Grader Lillian Foley. Congratulations!

Tuesday we focused on our parents. We hosted them for breakfast during first period, gifted our parents with personal letters of gratitude, and greeted them as they joined us in our classrooms to visit.

A teacher dress-down day on Wednesday topped off a wonderful luncheon prepared by the second- and eighth-grade parents for the teachers as we focused our attention on them. Our teachers also each received a new Nativity hoodie to wear on their next dress-down day.



On our 100th Day of School – Thursday – we honored our country’s heroes. Our Second and Fourth Graders, led by their teachers Mrs. Basselgia and Ms. Fetzer, introduced our panel of military and medical personnel – all Nativity parents – with an inspirational display of elementary school pomp and circumstance. Singing and dancing to Lee



Greenwood’s “God Bless the USA,” our young performers mesmerized the audience, bringing smiles to everyone. Our special guests then spoke to us about how each discovered their life’s work. We learned a lot!

On Friday, our students – the reason why we are all here – prepared the Mass. After receiving St. Blaise’s Blessing of the Throat and presenting the virtue awards, we shared a special lunch with our buddies (Many thanks to Mrs. Sidebottom & her team). Grades K-2 spent an afternoon of fun in their classrooms (more details to come soon!), while all the Fourth through Eighth Graders gathered to work on a service project together. Splitting into small groups to measure, cut, and tie cozy blankets from large pieces of fleece, the older students spent the afternoon working together. The finished blankets will be donated to Project Linus.



That ends a busy week of celebration within a Catholic school community where our Pastor, Father Bob Cilinski, says **“Every child is loved.”**

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



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!

SAVE THE DATE!

The next Mariam Homes shredding event will take place on Saturday, March 25, 2023. More information to follow!

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!

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
afram@nativityburke.org

REAL LIFE CHALLENGES,

REAL GOD SOLUTIONS

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

donut worry!

NEXT WEEKEND IS DONUT SUNDAY

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.

Nativity's Italian Heritage and Cultural Society presents

WINE & CHOCOLATE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23 AT 7:00PM

NATIVITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

SAVE THE DATE! FEBRUARY IS DELIZIOSA WITH NATIVITY ITALIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURAL SOCIETY. JOIN US FOR A DELECTABLE EVENING OF "WINE AND CHOCOLATE" TASTING.

ROBERTO D'ONOFRIO OF IMPERO WINE DISTRIBUTORS, LORTON, AND OMAR NAZAREI OF NAZBRO CHOCOLATES, OCCOQUAN, WILL BE EXPLAINING THEIR PRODUCTS AND SUGGESTING WINE AND CHOCOLATE PAIRINGS FOR US TO TRY. ROBERTO WILL BRING AN INVIGORATING ASSORTMENT OF WINES TO ACCOMPANY OMAR'S HANDMADE, FINE CHOCOLATES AND FUDGE. YOU'LL BE INVITED TO SAMPLE. AND BRING CASH. IF YOU LIKE WHAT YOU TASTE, WINE AND CHOCOLATE MAY BE PURCHASED TO TAKE HOME.

AND A REMINDER. WE'RE PUTTING TOGETHER A GIFT BASKET TO DONATE TO THE NATIVITY SCHOOL AUCTION IN APRIL. ANYTHING YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE WILL BE HELPFUL. ITALIAN FOODS, GIFT CARDS, ITALIAN-ORIENTED BOOKS, ETC. ARE WELCOME. PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO THIS MEETING.

AS ALWAYS, MEMBERS ARE FREE AND GUESTS ARE WELCOMED FOR \$5 ENTRY FEE. SOCIAL HOUR WILL FOLLOW. PLEASE BRING A DESSERT OR APPETIZER TO SHARE, IF YOU CAN.

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 Herson with The Messy Family Project

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

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/>

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...”



ALTAR FLOWERS Donated by



Barbara and Stan Zagalak
In Loving Memory of
Imogene Albrecht

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>

PAPAL BLESSING PARCHMENTS

The gift of an Apostolic Blessing, formally inscribed on parchment and sent from Rome, is a traditional means of marking milestone events such as wedding anniversaries, baptisms, first communions, confirmations and significant birthdays. These parchments are produced by the Holy See's Office of Papal Charities, or Elemosineria Apostolica, which is charged with exercising charity to the poor in the name of the Holy Father. Since the time of Pope Leo XIII, the production of these parchments has served as an important means of funding charitable works. Papal Blessing Parchments may now be ordered online directly from the Elemosineria Apostolica using their website, elemosineria.va/papal-blessing-parchments.

A number of beautiful formats are available for each type of event.

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/>

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.



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
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](#).

**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:

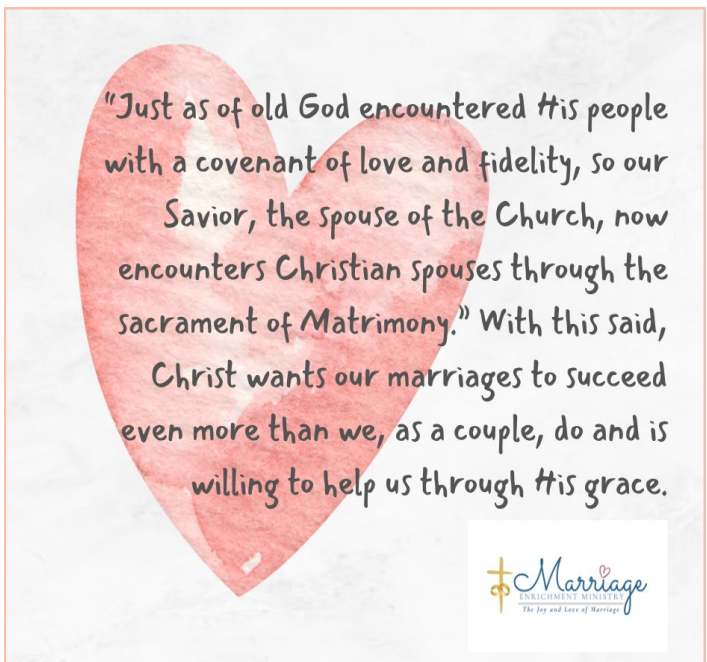
- Ability to follow directions and communicate effectively.
- Proficiency in maintaining control in a group environment.
- Successful completion of Virtus training.
- Successful background check.
- Adherence to COVID-19 Safety Protocols.

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


Preventing Homelessness in Fairfax County....

Family PASS provides intensive case management to address the underlying challenges that lead to homelessness: wage disparity and lack of affordable housing in Fairfax County. Our clients are working families who struggle to keep a roof over their heads due to low wages and high housing costs. As needed, we provide emergency rental assistance to avoid eviction, and then work with families to develop educational/career goals that would lead to a living wage. We also work with clients on the following: budget counseling and connecting them to community resources, assist with educational expenses, including tuition, books, technology, etc. assist with utilities, childcare, transportation, and some debt reduction, as it relates to families being able to work, achieving their goals, and stabilizing their family.

**To learn more or to donate, visit our website
www.familypassfairfax.org**



"Just as of old God encountered His people with a covenant of love and fidelity, so our Savior, the spouse of the Church, now encounters Christian spouses through the sacrament of Matrimony." With this said, Christ wants our marriages to succeed even more than we, as a couple, do and is willing to help us through His grace.



Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

6th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday February 12

Sirach 15:15-20
Ps 119:1-2,4-5,17-18,
33-34(1b)
1 Corinthians 2:6-10
Matthew 5:17-37

The Jewish religious authorities of Jesus' day were often literalists in their interpretation of the Law of God. Jesus, however, gave a deeper meaning to the Law. He placed his focus on the *goal* of the Law: Love.

Monday February 13

Genesis 4:1-15, 25
Ps 50:1,8,16bc-17,20-21
Mark 8:11-13

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus explains that we fail to fulfill the Law when our so-called obedience isn't motivated by love.

Tuesday February 14
Sts. Cyril and Methodius

Genesis 6:5-8;7:1-5,10
Ps 29:1-2,3ac-4,3b,9c-10
Mark 8:14-21

Jesus completely fulfilled the true meaning of the Law. In doing so, he took upon himself our disobedience and died for us in the most generous gift of love.

Wednesday February 15

Genesis 8:6-13,20-22
Ps 116:12-15,18-19
Mark 8:22-26

As his followers, we also are to be generous with love. Obeying all the commandments – truly obeying them – requires loving God with our whole heart, all the time, and loving others as ourselves.

Thursday February 16

Genesis 9:1-13
Ps 102:16-21,29,22-23
Mark 8:27-33

Jesus explains how to transform literal interpretations of God's laws into the Law of Love. In each example, he shows that we are to choose the most loving approach to every problem, no matter how difficult.

Friday February 17

Genesis 11:1-9
Ps 33:10-15
Mark 8:34 – 9:1

His first topic is anger: Sinful anger is judgmental and we are judged by this sin. Jesus provides the remedy: Go and do whatever is necessary to be reconciled. This, he points out, is even

more important than worshipping God. How genuine can our worship be if anger has replaced love in our hearts, since God is love?

Another example is lust, which is a counterfeit of love because it treats others as objects. And divorce from a valid marriage is a failure to love as Christ loves, who taught that love makes sacrifices and endures hardships. Remarriage, he says, furthers the sin because it's unloving to the spouse of the original union.

Jesus extends this teaching to every area of life. Breaking an oath is unloving. Lying and never intending to keep the commitment is unloving. In fact, the entire Sermon on the Mount,



of which this Gospel reading is a part, explains how to love.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † Were you ever treated unlovingly because of another person's legalism? How did that experience hide the true nature of Jesus?
- † What habits do you have that are unloving toward yourself? How do they affect others?
- † Recall a time when someone treated you unfairly but you responded with an act of love. How difficult was it to give that love? What were the results?
- † Name common ways that Christians fail to obey God. What did Jesus do to make up for those failures? For example, how do you suppose Jesus treats unborn babies who've been aborted or miscarried?



**Knights of
Columbus®**
The Abbate Agency
www.abbatekofc.com

*You're invited
to join us
on February 28th!*



Catholic Financial Planning Seminar and Council Social

Join us for an informative live presentation from the Abbate Agency - Knights of Columbus about how to combine your faith and financial security. It will be preceded by a social sponsored by Holy Spirit Council 11922. All are invited to better their understanding of benefits available to Catholics through the Knights of Columbus. This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to learn and to enjoy good company during the social! It is open to the entire community.

The Knights of Columbus has once again earned AM Best A+ (Superior) Rating for Financial Strength. This reaffirmation by A.M. Best, along with our recent designations by Forbes as one of "America's Best Insurance Companies," and the S&P ranking¹ us as one of the most financially strong life insurers in North America, all clearly demonstrate our position as a top insurance company and a strong competitive leader in our industry.

The Abbate Agency, a consistent high performer for the Knights of Columbus and its members, offers the knowledge and experience to help you best leverage the Knights of Columbus financial strength, insurance products² and fraternal benefits to meet your needs.

You will also learn about how Catholics now have an opportunity to work with Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors (KocAA) through one of our Investment Advisor Representatives. KoCAA is the intersection of Catholic and Capable. We offer clients a way to invest with integrity, assured that their funds are invested with companies committed to sound ethical, environmental, social, and corporate governance practices. That's how we provide "value with values"-- by helping clients grow their future with faith-based investing.³

Date: February 28, 2023 Time: 7:30 PM
Location: Quinn Room, Holy Spirit School
8800 Braddock Road, Annandale, VA 22003
RSVP: <https://feb28annandale.abbatekofc.com>



¹Ranking North American Life Insurance Companies from Strongest to Weakest by S&P Global Ratings, April 6, 2020.

²Insurance products are offered through Knights of Columbus, One Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510.

³Investments are offered through Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, information found on www.kofcassetadvisors.org.

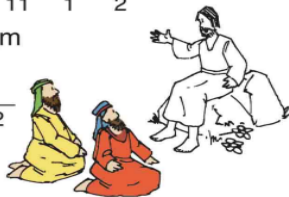


Jesus spoke more about oaths and keeping promises. What did He say?

Write the word that means the opposite of the one given. Then fill in the blanks below.

sad = $\frac{11}{2} \frac{4}{1} \frac{9}{8}$ give = $\frac{5}{3} \frac{10}{7}$
 fast = $\frac{2}{1} \frac{10}{7}$ first = $\frac{15}{16}$
 lose = $\frac{W}{1} \frac{8}{1}$ young = $\frac{12}{13}$
 hate = $\frac{12}{13}$ before = $\frac{14}{6}$

" $\frac{2}{1} \frac{m}{4} \frac{12}{9} \frac{12}{3} \frac{5}{2}$
 $\frac{9}{15} \frac{6}{9} \frac{3}{2}$ b $\frac{3}{9} \frac{3}{2}$;
 $\frac{10}{8} \frac{16}{9} \frac{15}{6} \frac{8}{15}$;
 $\frac{8}{15}$;" g
 b $\frac{3}{9} \frac{15}{8} \frac{16}{5} \frac{11}{1} \frac{2}{2}$
 c $\frac{m}{15} \frac{3}{2} \frac{14}{6} \frac{15}{15}$
 $\frac{7}{11} \frac{3}{3} \frac{13}{1} \frac{12}{12}$
 $\frac{15}{8} \frac{3}{3}$ "



What did Jesus say next?

Find the missing sections of the words in the box to fill in the blanks.
 th__ y whi__ tters __dge
 __he __our ha__ co__ quic__
 __re __ver __ttle __ing __sary
 ma__ ov__

"Se__ ma__ kly with y__
 adver__ who is tak__ you to __urt. Do it
 __le you a__ still with him on t__ way, or he
 ma__ nd you __er to the ju__, and __e
 judge __y hand you o__ to the officer."



Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+ February 12, 2023 • Matthew 5:21-37

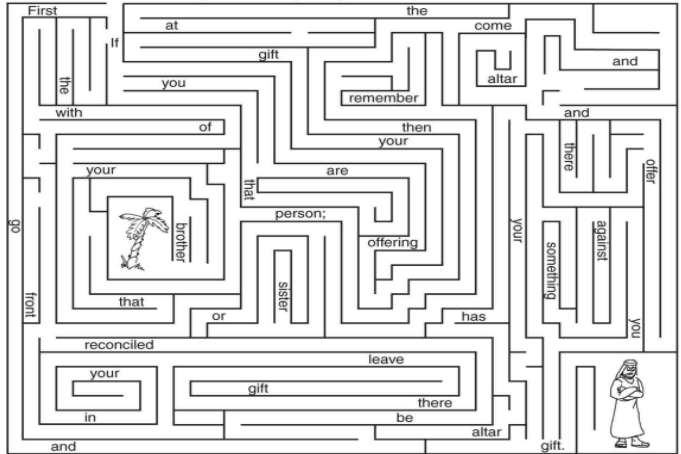
Teachings From Jesus' Sermon on the Mount

Jesus taught the people. What did He say?

Guide the person through the maze to complete the passage.



"If you are offering your gift at the altar and remember there that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar."



Jesus reminded them of what was said to the people of long ago and gave them new instructions. What did He say?

Use the code to fill in the blanks.
 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
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

"You have heard that it was said,

$\frac{4}{25} \frac{15}{15} \frac{14}{21} \frac{15}{18} \frac{20}{15} \frac{2}{1} \frac{18}{20} \frac{5}{8} \frac{1}{11}$;
 $\frac{2}{15} \frac{21}{1} \frac{20}{20} \frac{11}{8} \frac{5}{19} \frac{5}{25} \frac{16}{15} \frac{20}{15} \frac{8}{21} \frac{5}{21}$
 $\frac{8}{20} \frac{1}{8} \frac{22}{5} \frac{5}{12} \frac{13}{15} \frac{1}{18} \frac{4}{4} \frac{5}{20} \frac{15}{15}$;
 Do not swear at all: $\frac{5}{2} \frac{9}{25} \frac{20}{8} \frac{8}{5} \frac{18}{14}$, for it is
 $\frac{7}{15} \frac{4}{8} \frac{19}{5} \frac{20}{1} \frac{8}{22} \frac{18}{5} \frac{15}{14}$;
 $\frac{15}{5} \frac{18}{1} \frac{2}{18} \frac{25}{20} \frac{20}{8} \frac{8}{5}$, for it is
 $\frac{6}{15} \frac{15}{1} \frac{20}{18} \frac{19}{20} \frac{15}{15} \frac{12}{12}$; or by
 $\frac{10}{3} \frac{5}{9} \frac{18}{20} \frac{21}{25} \frac{19}{15} \frac{1}{6} \frac{12}{20} \frac{5}{8} \frac{13}{5}$, for it is the
 $\frac{7}{18} \frac{5}{5} \frac{1}{20} \frac{11}{9} \frac{14}{7}$ "

Finding Jesus as

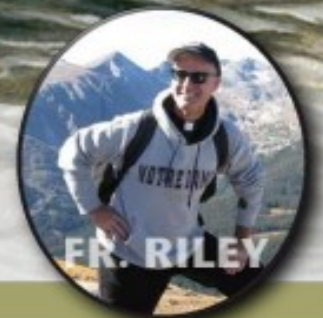
MEN after Christ's own Heart

SILENT RETREAT
MARCH 17-19
FRIDAY - SUNDAY
2023



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



FR. RILEY

Contact Fr. Riley: Retreat@SacredHeartWinchester.org

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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>26 Imagine being responsible for all the souls in the world. Offer a Rosary for the intentions of the pope.</p> <p>5 After Mass today, go out to eat with other parishioners from church.</p> <p>12 Reread John 4:5-30. How is Christ calling you closer to Him? What "jug" would you leave behind?</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>26 Fast from unnecessary screen use today. Use the time to read a book, walk outside, pray.</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>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>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>13 Refuse to gossip, either in person or on screen. Affirm every person or keep silent.</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>27 This week, get up when the alarm goes off and offer your day to God's service.</p> <p>3 Holy Week is a busy time for parishes. Stop by your parish office and ask how you can help.</p>	<p>28 Offer an extra small sacrifice for God, just for today - coffee without cream, lukewarm shower, no snacking, etc.</p> <p>7 Pick an issue in the news and pray over it today.</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>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>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>4 Pray for those who are coming into the Church at the Easter Vigil.</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>1 <i>March</i> Enjoy pretzels -- a traditional Lenten snack. The "crossed" arms of the pretzel recalled monks at prayer.</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>15 Attend Confession and experience God's mercy. Resolve to make amends where you can.</p> <p>22 Take the box of clothes you set up on March 4 to a clothing drive.</p> <p>29 Today, complete an errand or chore you've been putting off.</p> <p>5 Judas betrayed Christ. Consider how our sins betray Jesus and make a sincere Act of Contrition.</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>2 Today, look for opportunities to practice the virtues humility, patience, and kindness.</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>16 Check out Catholic Relief Services to see how you can support their projects. Look here: https://www.crs.org.</p> <p>23 Pray for an increased faith throughout the Church in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.</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>6 <i>Holy Thursday</i> Visit the Blessed Sacrament. Offer Him your love for the "lost hour" of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:40).</p>	<p>24 Catholics are required to abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent as a form of penance.</p> <p>3 <i>First Friday</i> Attend Mass or visit the Blessed Sacrament (find the red candle). Be present to Him who is present to you.</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>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>24 Practice patience... patiently. "Be patient with everyone, but first of all with yourself" (St. Francis de Sales).</p> <p>31 Today, fast from complaining. Cultivate gratitude instead.</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>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>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>11 Pray for pregnant mothers and their babies. Consider donating to pro-life charities that help women in crisis.</p> <p>18 Contact local shelters and soup kitchens and ask if they need volunteers.</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>1 <i>April</i> Declutter, dust, and clean the house in preparation for Holy Week — the holiest time of the year.</p> <p>8 <i>Holy Saturday</i> Renew your baptismal vows and commit to living your faith more fully this year.</p>



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Thursday, March 9, 4:00-5:30pm

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- Mar 25, 9-11:30am* Boys Basketball Clinic
- May 6, 8am-12pm* Pre-HSPT/Parent How to HS

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Marzo 4 | 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm | Fr. Ready Room

Marzo 11 | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm | Art Room

Marzo 18 | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm | Fr. Ready Room

Marzo 25 | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm | Fr. Ready Room

Abril 1 | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm | Art Room

¡NO TODO VALE!

VI Domingo (A)
Javier Leoz



Dice una conocida sentencia: *“Una cosa no es justa por el hecho de ser ley. Ha de ser ley porque es justa”*. El hombre, que anhela su propia libertad (sin más límites que la propia conciencia) está inclinado a rechazar todas aquellas normas, o mínimas pautas, que vayan en contra de esa idea: yo soy dueño de mi vida, de mi historia y de todo lo que pienso y realizo. ¿O no es así? ¿No hay una práctica rebeldía del hombre contemporáneo a todo lo que se le impone como ley?

1.El evangelio de este domingo VI nos viene estupendamente. Frente al “todo vale” que, en cierta manera nos propaga el mundo, Jesús nos dice el “pero yo os digo”.

-Frente al aborto (porque el ser humano es dueño de su propio cuerpo), el Señor nos recuerda que —el 5º mandamiento— sigue tan vigente como lo conoció y escuchó Moisés: *“¡No matarás!”* Y que, la vida, viene de Dios y, sólo Dios, puede disponer de ella.

-Frente al olvido o la marginación de los más mayores (cuando la sociedad afirma que ya han cumplido), el Señor nos trae a la memoria el 4º punto de lo revelado por Dios en el Monte Sinaí *“honrarás y respetarás a tus padres”*.

-Frente a la opulencia (en contraste escandaloso con los países más pobres), en este día de Manos Unidas que lucha por el desarrollo de los pueblos más desfavorecidos y hambrientos, el Señor nos lleva al segundo mandamiento: *“amarás al prójimo como a ti mismo”*.

-Frente al intento de absolutizar leyes y normas que siendo indignas se exigen a todas las personas sin derecho a objeción de conciencia (como recientemente reclamaba el Papa Benedicto XVI), Jesús nos recuerda que, sólo Dios, es digno de ser adorado y de ser tenido como suprema ley a favor del hombre.

2.La Palabra de Dios, sus leyes, no son ningún adorno para la humanidad. Es la constatación de un hecho real: muchos de los que creemos en el Señor no tenemos orientada suficientemente, y con fortaleza cimentada, nuestra vida en el Reino de Jesús. Dios, y es así, no es ningún adorno: si su Ley fuera cumplida..muchos dramas del mundo serían superados.

Jesús no quiere esclavos de su Reino. Hay un dicho que dice algo así *“la letra con sangre entra”*. La ley del Señor, desde el momento en que está sustentada en el amor, requiere discípulos libres (no obligados), con luz propia (no con imitaciones), con sal y picante (no derretidos o vencidos). A nadie se nos obliga a creer y, por lo tanto, cumplir la voluntad de Dios, esperar en El y en sus promesas nos lleva a la siguiente conclusión: vivir según Dios es un gran regalo. Un privilegio que el Señor nos recuerda en el evangelio que acabamos de escuchar.

Cristo que sabe cómo se está con Dios metido en el corazón, desea para nosotros lo mismo: la felicidad auténtica. ¿Y cómo se alcanza? Sirviéndole con alegría y con prontitud, con entusiasmo y con diligencia, con perfección y con humildad.

Iba un peregrino camino de Compostela y, en un anochecer, mirando hacia las estrellas preguntó: *“Señor; ¿qué quieres de mí? Vivo según tu Palabra y camino por tus sendas. Te busco...y no sé si acabo de encontrarte. Una voz, desde lo más profundo del silencio le contestó: “te quiero a Ti”*.

Esta es la ley del Señor. Sus mandamientos están encaminados precisamente hacia ello: a un encuentro real, misterioso y personal entre Dios y el hombre.

QUE NO SEA REBELDE, SEÑOR

A tu Palabra, pues ella me ilumina
me enseña los caminos hacia tu Reino

A tu presencia, pues contigo y en Ti,
encuentro la felicidad plena

la dicha verdadera y las razones para vivir

QUE NO SEA REBELDE, SEÑOR

A tus leyes, pues con ellas,
podré ser libre de verdad

sin someterme a otras, que en el mundo,
son injustas y caprichosas

QUE NO SEA REBELDE, SEÑOR

A tu voluntad, para no ser esclavo de nadie
y sirviéndote a Ti, pueda descubrirte

en mi entrega sencilla pero sincera a los demás

QUE NO SEA REBELDE, SEÑOR

A tu proyecto sobre mí,
y llevar a buen puerto

lo que, mis débiles fuerzas, me permitan

QUE NO SEA REBELDE, SEÑOR

A tus exigencias en la vía hacia la perfección

A tu corazón, para moldear el mío frío y duro

A tu llamada, para no olvidarme
de lo mucho que, hoy siempre, me amas.

Amén.

MI ALMA SE *Regocija*
EN EL *Señor*

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2023 Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2023

Este fin de semana se solicita a cada familia que haga una promesa de contribución o una ofrenda a la Petición Cuaresmal Del Obispo. Esta petición nos ofrece la oportunidad de unirnos como familia católica para apoyar los programas, ministerios y servicios de ayuda a decenas de miles de personas. Después de reflexionar sobre las bendiciones recibidas de Dios, piensen en hacer una promesa de contribución a la Petición Cuaresmal Del Obispo. Pueden esa promesa al llenar la tarjeta distribuida durante la Misa, enviar la tarjeta por correo postal, hacer la promesa en línea en www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA o escanear el código QR indicado continuación para hacer una ofrenda.

Bonifacio Fernández, cmf - Lunes, 20 de octubre de 2008

Éste es un asunto complejo. Tiene una viva vertiente humana. Y una no menos viva dimensión eclesial. Veamos de ordenar algunos datos:



El número de bautizados casados sacramentalmente que se divorcian y vuelven a unirse en una nueva relación matrimonial es cada vez más grande. **Las estadísticas alarman.** Tras ellas están las personas reales de carne y hueso, de inteligencia y corazón.

La ruptura de un matrimonio, basado en el amor, no es indolora. Normalmente no es un capricho efímero. Detrás de una separación hay una historia de amor convertida en historia de sufrimiento. Hay heridas personales. Hay sentimientos de fracaso. Y **mucho dolor.**

En casos extremos la separación se hace inevitable. Es una obligación para salvar la propia salud personal y evitar males mayores. En otros muchos casos de separación hay uno que es abandonado.

La sociedad actual no favorece una **cultura de la fidelidad**, del esfuerzo, de la gratificación a largo plazo. Exalta con fruición la infidelidad y la inestabilidad. ¡Pero todavía sigues con el mismo! La poligamia y la poliandria sucesivas se nos presentan como éxito y logro en los iconos sociales y culturales.

La comunidad cristiana siente el dolor de estos cristianos separados, divorciados y casados de nuevo; son miembros de la misma; a veces amigos y familiares. Se siente en conflicto: por una parte está la amistad, la convivencia, la pertenencia a estas personas; por otra, está la necesidad de ser fieles a la palabra de Jesús: **"lo que Dios ha unido no lo separe el hombre"** Mt 19,5-6). La comunidad cristiana se ve envuelta en un conflicto. La autoridad de la palabra de Jesús y el amor a los hermanos.

La comunidad cristiana entiende que los casados, divorciados y casados en un nuevo matrimonio civil, **siguen siendo cristianos.** Muchos de ellos siguen siendo personas de oración; meditan la Escritura, educan a sus hijos en la fe; están comprometidos en la lucha por la justicia y la solidaridad. Participan en la eucaristía. Pero no están en plena comunión objetiva con la palabra de Jesús. Por eso justifica la exclusión de estas personas de la comunión eucarística. Entiende la Iglesia que en la Eucaristía se actualiza el amor fiel, único, indisoluble y redentor de Jesús. Ese amor sponsal que se celebra está en contradicción con la ruptura de la promesa de fidelidad y compromiso que han hecho los divorciados.

El matrimonio civil como relación de amor estable y fiel, como mutua ayuda y proyecto de vida, es una realidad humana muy valiosa y positiva. No es lícito devaluarlo como concubinato. En cuanto relación de amor comprometido y dialogante, tierno y fecundo, es reflejo del Dios-amor. Es una realidad con alcance religioso. **"Todo el que ama ha nacido de Dios y conoce a Dios. Quien no ama no ha conocido a Dios"** (1Jn 4, 7-8).

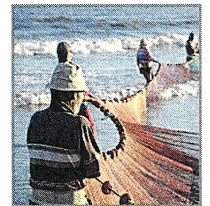
La exclusión de la plena comunión eucarística no es un juicio sobre las personas; menos aún constituye su descalificación o culpabilización. No es un castigo ni una discriminación. Las personas son respetables, aun

cuando sus decisiones fueran equivocadas o contrarias a la praxis cristiana. **Cada uno es responsable último de su propia vida ante Dios.** La capacidad de rectificar los propios errores o de convertirse de sus pecados es admirable humanamente.

La misericordia salvadora de Dios es universal. Dios ama a todos y cada uno. Es el suyo un amor incondicional. Ofrece siempre una **esperanza de futuro**, de crecimiento en la fe y en el amor.

La iglesia no puede mantener a estas personas sin salida. Tiene que ofrecer un camino hacia la plena comunión. **¿Cómo ayuda la Iglesia a estas personas?** ¿Cómo muestra su amor materno? ¿Cómo sufre y ama la comunidad cristiana junto con estas personas? ¿Realmente les muestra que el yugo es suave y la carga ligera?

La llamada
Angel Moreno - Viernes, 20 de enero de 2017



Estamos en los primeros domingos del Tiempo Ordinario, tenemos ante nosotros el año apenas estrenado, y la Palabra de Dios nos propone el pasaje evangélico de la llamada de los primeros discípulos, y su actitud inmediata de seguir a Jesús, dejando redes, casa, familia...

Puede parecer una escena irreal, porque es difícil comprender que de una forma tan inmediata alguien pueda decidir una opción totalmente radical. Debemos interpretar que el texto evangélico compendia el relato. Seguro que los pescadores de Galilea ya habrían tenido noticias de Jesús de Nazaret, y que la opción de seguirlo no es posible sin sentir históricamente la llamada.

De una u otra manera, en el discernimiento vocacional para las distintas formas de vida cristiana, debe haberse registrado un sentimiento de llamada, con la concurrencia de circunstancias objetivadoras que ayuden a comprender la opción de vida como una obediencia y no como una decisión inventada.

Solo cuando se ha registrado el paso del Señor por nuestras vidas cabe arriesgarse en el seguimiento evangélico, porque de lo contrario, sería difícil superar una posible crisis vocacional si no se encuentra razón trascendente por la que ser fiel. Esto vale para la vida consagrada y para la vida matrimonial.

El relato se hace eco de una profecía sobre el territorio en el que Jesús ejerce su misión. Este dato de fijar la vocación en un lugar concreto también es importante, porque a la hora de recordar la llamada es luminoso poder fijarla en tiempo y lugar, como les sucedió los discípulos de Juan el Bautista, cuando se encontraron por primera vez con Jesús, se dieron cuenta que era la hora décima, hacia las cuatro de la tarde.

He leído una expresión que resume muy bien el sentido de nuestra vida: **"Soy amado y llamado, por eso existo"** (José A. García). Si esto es principio y fundamento, que diría san Ignacio de Loyola, también sirve a la hora de cimentar la propia vocación.

¿A qué te sientes llamado? ¿Cuándo y dónde percibiste el paso del Señor por tu vida? ¿Tu modo de vida responde a una obediencia, o es un proyecto independiente, que tú te has impuesto?

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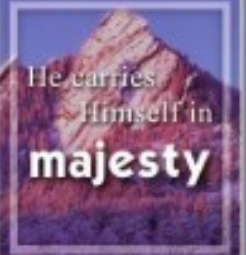


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