



The Spirit
drove Jesus
out into the
desert, and he
remained in
the desert
for forty days,
tempted by
Satan.
He was among
wild beasts, and
the angels
ministered
to him.

Mark 1:12,13

©Diocesan

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



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

REV. ROBERT C. CILINSKI, PASTOR
REV. EDWARD BRESNAHAN, PAROCHIAL VICAR
REV. JONATHAN BENNETT, PAROCHIAL VICAR
**REV. CEDRIC P. WILSON, ASSISTING PRIEST/
SPANISH MINISTRY**
DEC. RICHARD F. KELLY

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

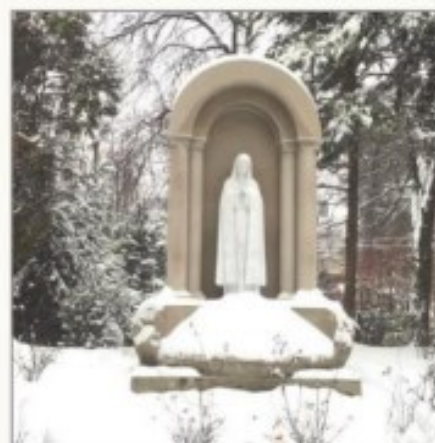
MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS

EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Sister Donatella Merulla, A.R., M.R.E.
Sister Mary Attilia Todaro, A.R., M.R.E.
Maria Ammirati, Religious Education Coordinator
Fania Jimenez, Administrative Assistant

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454-2415



PARISH OFFICE: (703) 455-2400
PARISH FAX: (703) 455-6832
NATIVITY SCHOOL: (703) 455-2300
NATIVITY FAX: (703) 569-8109
PRE-SCHOOL: (703) 455-2300 ext. 136
CCD OFFICE: (703) 455-0372
CCD OFFICE FAX: (703) 455-6832

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

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

HOLY DAY MASSES: As Announced

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

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

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

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

WEBMASTER:

Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Mary Castellano, socialmedia@nativityburke.org

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

A Message from our Pastor Fr. Bob Cilinski



My dear parishioners,

Twenty-six years ago, Fr. Richard Martin, then Nativity's Pastor, had the inspiration to make our Lenten sacrifice more meaningful by focusing on the poor. A basket was placed in the church vestibule and parishioners contributed what they saved during Lent to build homes for needy people in Haiti. We called this beautiful gesture "*Operation Starfish*," after the story that teaches us that we can make a difference, one person at a time.

Today, we can look back and see just how much of a difference we have made. Our 13th Nativity Village development is nearly complete. More than 1,500 families now live in new homes in Haiti, because we cared. Fresh water fish farms are teeming with tilapia and basa. Ocean fishing co-ops bring food and business opportunities to several villages. Doctors are serving others in Jamaica after we supported their education. Another medical student is nearing graduation. More than 20,000 birthing and newborn kits have gone to new mothers in Haiti from our Stella Marina ministry and 150 midwives receive training every 2 months. Sewing centers and clinics in Haiti and a new clinic in Honduras are helping communities with jobs and healthcare. Hundreds of children are in Nativity Village schools. Three greenhouse complexes are operating in the Dominican Republic. Leper patients have support and hope at Cardinal Leger Leper Hospital. Together with Holy Spirit School in Annandale, we completed a reforestation project in Haiti in 2023. And we have done so much more...

But there is always more to do. ***In 2024 we plan to complete Nativity Village at Bas-Fossé and start a new development called Nativity Village at Bois-Louroux.*** In spite of the violence and turmoil in Haiti, we are able to work in the northern part of the country on a smaller scale. We will begin this new community with 20 new homes this year. In 2025 we will build another 20 homes, install a water distribution system, and put in solar street lights. Small business development will follow. Also in 2024, we will continue supporting scholarships, vocational training and healthcare. Food For The Poor is arranging for the Catholic Church to take over the operation of our Nativity Village schools in northern Haiti in the near future, and CEPUDO is now operating the new clinic we built in Honduras in 2023.

This Lent we will continue our long-standing tradition of placing a basket in the vestibule of the church. Any gifts placed in the basket will be shared with Operation Starfish and Catholic Relief Services (CRS). If you specifically designate either Operation Starfish or CRS, your designation will be honored.

Our principle Operation Starfish collection will take place this year on the Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 5, 2024. There will be a second collection on that Sunday at all the Masses. May 5 this year is the closest Sunday to the 10th anniversary of our late Pastor, Fr. Richard Martin's return to God. Fr. Martin loved the poor and founded Operation Starfish here at Nativity in 1998. We have a parish tradition of taking the annual Starfish collection during the Easter season on the Sunday closest to Fr. Martin's anniversary. Let's keep making a difference, one family at a time.

Love and Blessings,
Fr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor



OPERATION STARFISH 1998 – 2024 MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR 26 YEARS

"Poverty calls us to sow hope..."
- Pope Francis

Lent, 2024 at Nativity Catholic Church marks the 26th year of Operation Starfish, our international ministry to the poor. Begun in 1998, with Fr. Richard Martin's vision to make the Lenten sacrifice more meaningful, Operation Starfish has created an unmatched opportunity to encounter the poor and make a difference in their lives. By the time Fr. Martin died in 2014, our parish, working with Food For The Poor, had developed 9 Nativity Villages in Haiti and had completed projects in the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Honduras.

When Fr. Bob Cilinski became Nativity's Pastor, he led an Operation Starfish mission trip to Haiti in 2015 to dedicate Good Shepherd Village in memory of Fr. Martin. He also broke ground on a new medical facility – the "*Operation Starfish Clinic*," in Good Shepherd Village. Fr. Cilinski returned to Haiti in 2017 to bless the new homes in Nativity Village at Despuzeau and to break ground for a new school there. Fr. Cilinski also initiated Operation Starfish mission trips to Jamaica for Nativity's College and Young Adult Ministry.

Today, there are 13 Nativity Villages in Haiti and in 2024, we will break ground on our 14th village project – Nativity Village at Bois-Louroux. Like the earlier villages, Bois-Louroux will provide clean water, sanitation, education, healthcare and small businesses. We are truly "*sowing seeds of hope*" as Pope Francis calls us to do.

As we enter our 26th year of service, the people of Haiti continue to deal with gang violence, failed government, hunger and disease. Because of this, we have shifted our primary focus to northern Haiti, where conditions are better, and we have reduced the scope of our projects. Our commitment to our sisters and brothers in Haiti has not diminished. We will not abandon them. This past year we completed one school in Nativity Village at Bas-Fossé and a second is under construction. The housing at Bas-Fossé is nearly complete, with 75 new homes. We funded the operation of St. Anthony Clinic, supported our Nativity Sewing Centers and school scholarship program, funded midwife training and shipped birthing and newborn kits through our Stella Marina ministry. We also continued our medical scholarship program in Jamaica.

Operation Starfish also built a new clinic in El Celirio, Honduras last year to serve the medical needs of 3,500 people. A Honduran charity called CEPUDO is handling operation and staffing of the clinic. Nativity will send a delegation on a mission trip to Honduras this July to see the clinic, meet the staff and community, and survey needs for another possible project.

Please join us in Lenten prayer and sacrifice as we begin a new year of Operation Starfish!



***All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence,
Good Friday is a day of 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/serious reasons exist.

Annual Multi-Car Raffle

Have you sold your tickets yet? Where else can you get a chance to win all four 2024 vehicles from Ourisman Ford of Manassas (Ford Escape, Mustang, Ranger Truck and Bronco Sport) plus up to \$40,000 in cash for only \$5. We have additional tickets if you sell all of yours. Proceeds will benefit the youth ministry, the parish building fund, and Knights of Columbus charities. Please mail your sold ticket stubs directly to All Saints in the envelope provided. Please contact PGK Sam Morthland at 703-455-2186 if you have any questions or need additional tickets.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria



Stop by for
Confessions in
the Church from
6:30-8:00pm!

FEBRUARY 21
FEBRUARY 28
MARCH 6
MARCH 13

DONATIONS BENEFIT YOUTH MINISTRY

Teens in grades 8-12 can
volunteer by signing up on the
website



SIGN UP TO DONATE SOUP OR BREAD



Share a favorite family
recipe or experiment
with something new!

*Enjoy a simple soup dinner donated by
parishioners and served by our teens!*



2024 Bishop's Lenten Appeal "Behold, I make all things new"

Last weekend each household was 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 pledge to the BLA. Each donation is vital to the success of the appeal and the important work that it funds. 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.



SCAN ME



LENTEN SCHEDULE

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday of Lent,
in English at 7:00pm and Spanish at 8:00pm

Knights of Columbus - Lenten Fish Fry

Friday Evening: March 22nd,
from 5:30pm - 8:00pm, see ad in bulletin

Extra Confession, The Light is ON for You

Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation,
Each Wednesday Evening during Lent,
starting February 21st from 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesday Evenings during Lent from
5:30pm - 7:00pm:
February 21st & 28th, March 6th & 13th

"Come Walk with Me" Holy Hour and Meditations with Tenor Mark Forrest

Wednesday Evening, March 20th,
from 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Lenten Penance Service

Thursday Evening, March 21st at 6:30pm,
many priests will be available to hear confessions
in English and in Spanish

**In Observance of Presidents' Day, the Parish Office
will be closed all day on Monday, February 19th**



A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Fast from Energy Waste: Could you consider ways to reduce fossil fuel use in your life? Natural gas, oil, and coal are fossil fuels—non-renewable energy sources and produce greenhouse gas emissions. Consider cleaner forms of transportation: Walk, ride your bike, use public transportation. Petition and lobby Congress to support mass transit construction, higher miles per gallon standards for trucks, and more incentives for hybrid/electric vehicles. Obey the speed limit when driving. Every 10 mph faster reduces fuel economy by about 4 miles per gallon, regardless of vehicle size. Check your tire pressure. Low tire pressure means high energy/fuel consumption. To save money and energy at home, caulk and weatherstrip around doors and windows to plug air leaks. Remove one light bulb in your house and live without it during Lent as a reminder of the luxury of having electricity.

In Laudato Si, Pope Francis said, "There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions."

*"Entrepreneurship is an invitation to participate in God's creative act.
The human person is the only investment with the potential of infinite returns."
– Andreas Widmer*

Celebrating the Dignity of Work

Entrepreneurship at the Service of the Human Person

with
Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington
and

Andreas Widmer

*Former Swiss Guard, mentor, author and business entrepreneur
speaking on how embracing creativity and the spirit of entrepreneurship
celebrates the dignity of work and can help us – and our neighbors – thrive*

Saturday, March 9, 2024
Nativity Catholic Church, Burke VA



Andreas Widmer

Founder and Director

*Art & Carlyse Ciocca Center for Principled Entrepreneurship,
The Catholic University of America Busch School of Business*

| | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| 5:00 PM | Mass with Bishop Burbidge |
| 6:00 PM | Dinner |
| 7:00 PM | Keynote Address |
| 8:00 PM | Q&A |



For details and
registration, scan
the QR code



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARLINGTON

Sponsored by the Diocese of Arlington Peace & Justice Commission

Did you know?

Our Nativity Rosary Ministry distributes an average of 8,000 mission rosaries a year to foreign missions and to our parish and local community groups. We also collect Old and Broken rosaries. If you have rosaries to donate there is a grey box at the back of the church where you can place your rosaries, or medals. (**no large crucifixes or written materials, please**)

These rosaries are sorted, cleaned, and repaired and then sent to the foreign missions. If a rosary cannot be completed, we use the parts for chaplets and any parts not used are buried in the ground.

What you may not know is that our rosary ministry receives packages and boxes with Old and Broken rosaries, thanks to our website, from all over the United States. In the last few years, we have recycled hundreds of repaired beautiful rosaries.

If we are to continue, we will need your help to learn to repair old rosaries. You will be taught what you need to know. The day and time for 2 meetings will be decided by the group in the month of March. Once you learn our system you can work from home. If you are interested send your contact information to Diane or Lesleyanne at rosaryministry@nativityburke.org.

CompTIA Online Classes - Registration Open

Are you interested in a career in IT? Take CompTIA online classes A+ or ITF. Registration is open until February 26. Classes are 18 weeks long and held via Zoom, 7:00-9:00 pm.

Scholarships available. To learn more: (571) 208-1572 or ewd@ccda.net.



Cardinal Forest Giant

8320 Old Keene Mill
Springfield, VA 22152

Your donation to Stuff the Bus at this location will benefit ECHO.

Saturday, February 17

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Most Requested Items

If you plan to donate to the Stuff the Bus food drive, please consider giving items from this list. Because the average size of a family seeking food assistance is four people, the sizes indicated are preferred to reduce food spoilage. Additionally, donating items that are high fiber, low sugar and low sodium not only feed hungry people but also contribute to their overall health and wellness.

- Cooking oil
- Corn Flour Maseca
- Bag (dry) beans, peas or lentils (16 oz.)
- Rice - brown or white (5 lbs. or smaller)
- Canned fruit in light syrup or juice (20 oz. or smaller)
- Healthy hot and cold cereal (42 oz. or smaller)
- Healthy snacks (e.g. raisins, granola bars)
- Canned tuna, salmon or chicken (15 oz. or smaller)
- Canned tomatoes - low sodium, no salt added (29 oz. or smaller)
- Soup - lower sodium (19 oz. or smaller)
- Canned pasta (16 oz. or smaller)
- Macaroni and cheese
- Peanut butter (40 oz. or smaller)
- Fruit jam (32 oz. or smaller)
- Instant potatoes (16 oz. or smaller)
- Pancake mix (32 oz. or smaller) and syrup
- Canned vegetables - low sodium, no salt added (29 oz. or smaller)
- Canned beans or peas (29 oz. or smaller)

For more information, visit: <http://bit.ly/FfxStufftheBus>



For more information on Stuff the Bus, inclement weather arrangements or to request this information in an alternate format, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov, and search "Stuff the Bus," or call 703-222-9764, TTY 711. A Fairfax County, VA, publication. 2/2024



TRIVIA NIGHT

TOP 3 TEAM PRIZES!

BYO FOOD & DRINKS

Saturday, March 2 | 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Fr. Martin Center (Gym) - Doors open at 6:30 PM

Form Teams up to 8 Players. Free Agents Welcome

BE CREATIVE: THEME Your Team or Table

Tickets are \$10 a person

Limited Time Offer: Buy a round with a Father \$25

Purchase online at:

<https://NativityTrivia1.givesmart.com>

Sponsored by Nativity School PTO/ 21+ Please



Follow Bishop Burbidge on Twitter!

Bishop Burbidge has over 25,000 followers on Twitter! His daily reflections and posts are popular and insightful. Follow him [@BishopBurbidge](https://twitter.com/BishopBurbidge).




Pro-Life Corner Open Letter from Bishop Burbidge

President Biden has made abortion the centerpiece of his campaign. At a rally in Manassas, VA, he advocated for codifying Roe v. Wade into law. It is incredibly devastating to know President Biden would place "choice" over his sacred duty to protect life. President Biden's rally took place just four miles from the Manassas Mother of Mercy Free Medical Clinic, where Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington offers free prenatal care to pregnant women in need and their unborn children. In the year after the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health decision, **the Diocese of Arlington delivered \$877,000 in free medical care to more than 1,000 women.** Going further, the diocese also provided rent and utilities assistance, nearly 400,000 diapers, and 4,000 cans of formula to families in need.

Despite what this administration claims, taking the life of an innocent child is never a "choice." Women who are facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies deserve assistance that affirms and supports life - not destroy it. Abortion remains the preeminent civil rights issue of our time, yet, just yesterday, the Biden administration announced renewed efforts to increase access to medically unsafe prescription abortion pills. This is clearly not about women's health.

The Diocese of Arlington and the entire pro-life movement will remain steadfast in ensuring parents facing unexpected or challenging pregnancies have the support they need to choose life for their unborn children.



Dancing Through the Decades (50s-80s) | April 27, 2024


TICKETS GO ON SALE MARCH 1st!

Mark your calendars and join us for an evening of
"Dancing Through the Decades".
Come dressed in your favorite decade from the 1950s-1980s!

Food • Open Bar • Music & Dancing • Costume Contest •
Photo Booth • Live & Silent Auction •
Class Basket Raffle • 50/50 Raffle • Heads or Tails


Find all information regarding donations,
sponsorships, FAQs, etc. at
<https://www.nativityschool.org/gala>

Holy Spirit Catholic Church is pleased to announce a new ministry that will bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. The 12-week Surviving Divorce program begins on Tuesday, April 16 at 7:30 pm. This program is for the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. It will help them find answers to their questions, restore their hope, and begin authentic healing. For additional information or to enroll in the program, please contact divorcedministry@holyspiritchurch.us.



**National Eucharistic Congress
Indianapolis, Indiana from July 17-21, 2024**

This summer, Jesus is inviting you to encounter him in a new way. He wants to work wonders in and through you, making YOU a part of salvation history in ways you never could have imagined. Ready to see what God has in store? Come and witness his transformative power this summer, July 17-21, at the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis. For the first time in nearly a century, the Catholic Church from every corner of the United States is about to gather in one place. Together, we will be healed, converted, formed, unified, and launched into a new chapter of Eucharistic mission—on fire with love for Jesus Christ. Your life—and the world—will never be the same. Learn more at EucharisticCongress.org, and see the bulletin for more details on how you can help represent our community at this pivotal event.



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

Monday, February 19th
7:30 am Special Int for Monica Shia

Tuesday, February 20th
7:30 am Special Int. Bernard & Theresa Bresnahan
12:00 pm † Elizabeth Keenan

Wednesday, February 21st
7:30 am † Paul Schimmer
3:00 pm Special Int. for Kathleen Denny (BHC)

Thursday, February 22nd
7:30 am † Lorene Greak
12:00 pm † Luisa Zamora

Friday, February 23rd
7:30 am † Victoria L. Hernandez
9:00 am † Arline Bradshaw

Saturday, February 24th
9:00 am † Eugene Conti M.D.
5:00 pm Parishioners
7:00 pm † Ricardo Jaramillo

Sunday, February 25th
7:00 am Special Int. for Danilo Dizon
9:00 am † John Heavey
11:00 am † Mark A. Wurm
1:00 pm † Miriam Wells
5:30 pm † Marlene DiCola

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

**Love working with children? Want flexibility?
Consider subbing at Nativity School... Please Join Us!**

We are in need of substitute teachers with the following minimum qualifications:

- 2-plus years of college
- Ability to follow a lesson plan and give effective instructions in the absence of the teacher
- Proficiency in maintaining effective classroom management skills
- Diocesan-compliant and Successful background check

Contact Mrs. Shannon Murphy, our Registrar, for more information, at (703)455-2300 and/or smurph@nativityschool.org.

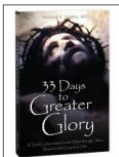
**Healing Mass and Prayer Service at Nativity
Tuesday, February 27th at 7:30pm**

"Cast all your cares upon Him for He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7)



Join us for the Healing Mass on February 27 at Nativity Catholic Church. Our priests and prayer ministers look forward to seeing you there! *"For I am the Lord who heals you." (Exodus 15:26)*

33 Days to Greater Glory



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

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

Please join THE NATIVITY ITALIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURAL SOCIETY ON

Thursday, February 22 at 7:00 pm
in the Nativity School Cafeteria

If you're interested in theater, save the date, as the NICHS will bring an interesting program of unusual nature: 18th Century Italian Theater and Religion. Guest speaker Dr. Gianni Cicali, head of Italian Graduate Studies at Georgetown University, will talk about how religion influenced early theater in Italy.

Some of us have toured theater ruins in Italy, but may not know about presentations that were there and the religious overtones. We'll find out more this month.

Social hour with wine and snacks follows. If you can, please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Join as a member at any meeting. Guests are welcome for a \$5 fee. rsvp to Kat at 123-456-7890.

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

**On behalf of the St. Lucy Team of the
Fr. Sikora Council Knights of Columbus:
Thank You for your wonderful generosity!!!**

In the recent St. Lucy Food Drive, you donated 13,690 lbs of food and gave \$3,773. These donations will go a very long way in replenishing the warehouse and will make a big difference in the lives of many families in the Diocese, especially during this Lenten Season!

The next St. Lucy "Drive-By/Drop-Off" Food Drive will take place in June 2024. Please look for us then and consider donating. And again, Thank You!

APPALACHIA HOME BUILDING: THANK YOU, THANK YOU... WE MET THE GOAL!

Your tremendous outpouring of support allowed us to not only meet, but exceed our goal in record time. We had a goal of \$110,000 and we are now over \$118,000 and donations continue to arrive every day. God bless you all for ensuring that we will build Nativity's 26th home in June for the Perry family. Refer any questions to Bob Corsi at bobcorsi@cox.net.

ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT ECHO

ECHO is most grateful for the support that Nativity parish provides. Parish donations in their various forms – food, clothing, monetary – find their way to help our neighbors in need. Another way to help ECHO help our neighbors in need is to volunteer for the wide range of services necessary for ECHO to accomplish its mission. ECHO volunteers identify neighbors in need and donors who help meet those needs. They also help our neighbors meet those needs, which may include clothing, food, and/or financial assistance. There are currently many openings for adult volunteers at ECHO. For further information about current volunteer opportunities, please visit <https://www.echo-inc.org/volunteer/>.



ADVOCATE IN THE MORNING

RALLY AT THE STATE CAPITOL

MARCH FOR LIFE

VIRGINIA PRO-LIFE DAY

Join us for a morning of advocacy followed by the Virginia March for Life in Richmond!

FEBRUARY 21ST

To register visit:
<https://vaprolifeday.org/>

For the Schedule and Nativity Carpool information please visit:
<https://nativityburke.org/va-pro-life/>





March 1st - Nativity's All-Day Prayer Vigil for Life 7:00 am - 7:00 pm

Please join us for one hour to peacefully pray the Pro-Life Rosary at 900 S. Washington St (Lee Hwy), Falls Church. This is part of 40 Days for Life's Spring Campaign to end the scourge of abortion locally, saving pre-born and newly born children and moms in crisis pregnancies. Join this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion. Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers! With God's help, here are the proven results in just 30 coordinated campaigns: over 20,000 babies saved from abortion; over 200 abortion workers converted; and over 100 abortion centers closed! Contact RickLoffredo@outlook.com if you have questions. Sign up at bit.ly/42FrC2j or use the QR Code.

Every Friday, Pray the Pro-Life Rosary 8:45 am - 9:45 am

When you are available, you're welcome to meet in the Narthex after any Friday 7:30am Mass and join us on the sidewalk in front of the abortion facility at 900 S. Washington Street, Falls Church. Contact RickLoffredo@outlook.com for information.



A SMALL GROUP SERIES FOR EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Details:

- Every Thursday through March 14 | 1:00 - 2:30 pm in the Fr. Ready Room
- Or Every 3rd Friday of the Month, Next Meeting March 15 | 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the Teachers' Lounge

OPEN TO ALL ADULTS IN THE PARISH

For more information, please contact our coordinator
Anna Lisa at marriage@nativityburke.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12

DINNER - FELLOWSHIP - PRAYER & FORMATION

Sundays | 6:30-8:30pm

HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUPS

GIRLS: Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00pm, weekly

GUYS: Mondays, 7:00-8:30pm,
2x/month



EDGE: GRADES 6-8

Alternating Sundays | 3:30-5:00pm
& Fridays | 7:00-8:30 pm

WORKCAMP DONATION WEEKEND

FEBRUARY 24 & 25 - AFTER ALL MASSES

Our high schoolers will be sharing the mission of WorkCamp and collecting donations at all Masses the weekend of February 24 and 25. Thank you for your generosity! Please pray for our teens as we prepare for this week of intentional service & Christian community.

[See website for full schedule](#)

Before attending, please register for the 2023-2024 year of ministry using our free, online forms.



cym@nativityburke.org



@nativitycym

Pray for those who are discerning a call to proclaim the hope of the Resurrection as religious brothers, sisters, priests or deacons. If you feel God is offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at (703) 841-2514 or email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

The Knights of Columbus - Ladies Auxiliary

Formed to assist and support the Knights, our Church and the four virtues of Charity, Unity, Sorority and Patriotism. We are spouses, daughters, mothers, or sisters of Knights of Columbus who are in good standing or deceased.

Our fellowship and informational meetings are the First Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Fr. Ready Room. Contact kdelatte65@gmail.com for information or to be added to our email distribution list.

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH



Multi Car Raffle

plus \$40,000 in Cash Drawings

***Only 4 weeks remaining to
sell your tickets!***

Tickets Only \$5

**Chance to win 4 cars and
\$40,000 in cash prizes**

Ford Escape



Ford
Bronco Sport

Ford Mustang



Ford
Ranger Truck



Images are representative of the models and types of cars to be awarded.

All tickets, stubs & monies are **due by Tuesday, 23 April to All Saints Catholic Church**. The drawings will be held during the All-Saints Catholic Church Fair on Saturday, 27 April. If you need more tickets or have questions, please contact PGK Sam Morthland @ 703-455-2186 or at kofc7992carraffle@gmail.com



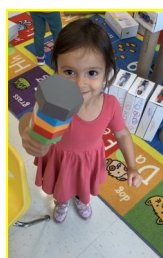
NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



Is Your Child Turning 3 By the End of September? *We've Got Just The Spot – In Our Classroom!*

Email Jen Behan to schedule a tour of our classrooms, playground, and lunchroom – and to meet our teachers at jbehan@nativityschool.org. Please bring your child, too – we can't wait to meet you!



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

Upcoming Dates At-A-Glance!

February 19 - No School - Presidents' Day
February 20 - Spartan's Fundraiser
February 21 - Spartan's Fundraiser
February 21 - Soup Supper, 5:30 - 7:00 pm
February 22 - Author Assembly
February 23 - 6th Grade Field Trip
February 23 - 2nd Grade Hall of Presidents
February 24 - Confirmation Retreat
February 26 - Band Concert, 2:00 pm
February 28 - Soup Supper, 5:30 - 7:00 pm
March 2 - Trivia Night, 6:00 - 9:30 pm

Join us at Nativity to see how your child would spend his/her days here - learning, praying, sharing, loving, and laughing. We may be just the school for which you've been searching!

Yes, Catholic education is worth the investment!

Nativity Catholic School is committed to making Catholic education accessible to those who desire it, and offers financial assistance to make their dream come true.

Contact Mrs. Shannon Murphy, our Registrar, for more information, at (703) 455-2300 and/or smurph@nativityschool.org.

David and Ginger Hildebrand in Concert

The St. Andrew the Apostle Concert Series welcomes renowned early American musical performers and educators David and Ginger Hildebrand in a free interactive concert on Sunday, March 10 at 4:00 pm, at St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church in Clifton, Virginia. During their performance, the Hildebrands will perform early American music on period instruments and don period attire. They will also explain and demonstrate their instruments, including the harpsichord, hammered dulcimer, violin, and Spanish and English guitars interpreting various musical traditions. A meet-the-artists reception will follow the performance. For more information visit www.st-andrew.org/concerts or call 703-817-1770.



Council Meetings - 1st and 3rd Tuesday. First meeting is a business meeting, the second meeting of the month is devoted to faith formation. Rosary 7:15 PM; meeting at 7:30 PM. Fellowship follows. Meet in the Nativity school cafeteria.

Linktree Universal Sign-up Link - Volunteer for an event! Scroll down to view all events.
https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992

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

21 February Virginia Pro-Life Day - Register at <https://vaprolifeday.org/> and contact RickLoffredo@outlook.com for further details.

15/16 March St. Patrick's Dinner Dance - This is a heavy lift, this annual event needs a lot of support to be successful.

22 March (ticket sales 9, 10, 16 & 17 March) Fish Fry - Volunteer on Link Tree.

Food for Others - Volunteer drivers for food distribution to the poor. If you have a truck, SUV or van and can occasionally help deliver to 7 Corners on Thursday evenings or to Springfield on Friday evenings please consider helping. For Thursdays, please contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyer koc7992@verizon.net.

For Fridays, please contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com.

Name Tags - Email Vince Augelli at VaKC23@gmail.com.

Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies - We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses.

Handy Knights Ministry - If you are unable to perform basic maintenance tasks or small repairs in your home due to health or other factors, call the "Handy Knights." Email handyknights@nativity@gmail.com.

The Fraternal Committee: Brothers helping brothers in need of assistance - Brothers and the families of living and deceased brothers in need of a helping hand, contact Br. John Landy at navyy8@yahoo.com.

3rd Degree Knights, Grow with 4th Degree - participate in patriotic activities that promote Catholic citizenship. 4th Degree Assembly meets the second Tuesday of the month in the Nativity school cafeteria: 7:30 pm rosary, 7:45 pm business meeting followed by fellowship. If you are interested, please contact our Faithful Navigator Vince Augelli at fn2996@vakofc.org.

Join the Knights! The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend values in a busy changing world. Join today! <https://www.kofc.org/joinus>.

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

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

HAVEN of Northern Virginia Workshops

Haven is a nonprofit, nonsectarian community organization of trained volunteers that offers emotional support to the bereaved, the seriously ill, the dying and to their families and friends. Haven also provides education to the community about the needs of those who are grieving. Since September 1976 Haven volunteers have helped individuals work through their grief, offering comfort and support by sharing insights, resources and techniques that encourage recovery and healing.

Grief Support Groups

Open Suicide Loss Support Group

This group, open to persons who have had a loved one die by suicide, is held twice monthly. Participants will be offered information and suggestions for handling the complexity of grief that often follows a suicide. To participate, call Haven at 703-941-7000. *The group meets on Saturdays.*

Four-Week Widow/Widower Bereavement Support Group

(formerly six-weeks). The group is open to persons whose spouse or partner has died. This loss can be numbing and devastating. You may have feelings of sadness, loneliness and abandonment. No one can heal your pain, but this group will help you learn ways to cope with this difficult experience. Pre-registration is required and participants must be able to attend all sessions. Check our home page or call Haven for dates.

Parent Loss Support Workshop

This group is open to anyone who has experienced the death of a parent. Coping with a loss like this is often a traumatic and painful experience. This group will provide participants with coping skills and give them an opportunity to share their experience with others who also are struggling to deal with the myriad facets of death. Check our home page: Haven of Northern Virginia Grief Support (havenofnova.org) or call Haven at for dates and further information. *Pre-registration is required.*

Haven of Northern Virginia is located at 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale, Virginia 22003. Phone 703-941-7000 or email havenofnova@verizon.net

2024 AOH Gaelic Mass

The 45th Annual Gaelic Mass in Honor of St. Patrick will be held on Monday, March 11, 2024 at 7:00pm at St. James Catholic Church, 905 Park Avenue, Falls Church. The Mass is organized and hosted by the Col. John Fitzgerald Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH). Sean O'Riada Mass in its original Gaelic will be celebrated with organ, harp, and chorus accompaniment. The celebrant will be Rev. M. Valentine Keveny from County Mayo, Ireland. A reception will follow. Contact Alex Wilson (ajwilzn@gmail.com) with any questions.

"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God..." - Mark 1:14

Have you ever thought about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to go to Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that He was proclaiming. It took great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, living a stewardship lifestyle takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that He will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.

Guadalupe Radio Network

Annual WMET

Fishers of Men Dinner

Saturday, April 27, 2024

Reception at 6 p.m.

Dinner at 7 p.m.

Catholic University of America

620 Michigan Ave., NE ▪ Washington, DC 20064

Keynote Speaker
Debbie Georgianni
Catholic Radio Host



Award Honoree
Little Sisters of the Poor



William E. Lori, Archbishop
Holy Mass Celebrant

LEARN MORE!



877-636-1160

Nativity Catholic Church

Family Ministry

Have you been looking for a way to connect with Catholic families for community, encouragement, and growth? There are MANY families with young children at Nativity and in our ministry, "family" encompasses families in all shapes and sizes- married couples, single parents, adopted children, one child, multiple children, etc.



MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER
SIGN UP



CALENDAR FOR
UPCOMING
EVENTS



BIBLE STUDIES AT NATIVITY PARISH

Tuesday morning Bible Study: We meet from 10:00am-11:30am in the Fr. Ready room. This year we are looking at the Gospel and readings for Sunday, seeking to find within something which touches our lives and/or the world around us. Contact Miya Johnson miyajohnson@verizon.net.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Saturday morning Men's Prayer and Reflection Group: Meeting in-person/virtually. Men of all ages! We hear the scriptures every Sunday, but to what extent do we understand what God is telling us and how He is enriching our very lives today? Join us in reading, researching, and reflecting on Sunday scriptures and discussing how it relates to our lives and helps us become better Catholic men, husbands, dads, family members, friends, parishioners, citizens, and above all, intentional disciples of Christ. Enjoy the fellowship! Meet Saturdays from 8:00am - 9:00am in the Training/Cry Room or Virtually. Drop-ins are always welcome! Contact Rick Loffredo rickloffredo@outlook.com.

"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ!" St. Jerome

Catholic Diocese of Arlington

Men's Conference 2024

RENEWED IN CHRIST
REFLECTING HIS LIGHT TO THE WORLD



Featuring:



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



Rev. Daniel Mode
Chaplain of the U.S. Coast Guard



Dr. Jonathan Reyes
Speaker & Author

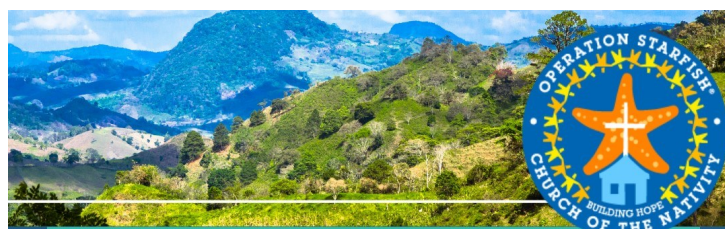
MARCH 2ND

Register at: arlingtondiocese.org/men

8:30am - 2:15pm
St. Joseph Catholic Church
750 Peachtree St., Herndon, VA



Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life
(703) 841-2500
family@arlingtondiocese.org



HONDURAS MISSION TRIP

JULY 8-12, 2024

In partnership with
Operation Starfish

If you're **college-age or a young adult**, contact Alison Fram to express your interest in coming with us!

Our mission is to visit **Honduras** and see our newest partnership with **Operation Starfish**.



afram@nativityburke.org

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!



Lunch N' Life
Thursday, March 21, 2024 12 noon — 2 PM
Lord of Life Lutheran Church
5114 Twinbrook Rd., Fairfax, VA 22032

Ms. Andrea Loewenwarter
Historic Resources Specialist will speak on
Historic Blenheim and the Civil War Interpretive Center



If you are a registered SCFB transportation client and you require transportation to the luncheon, please contact SCFB a week before the event and we will try to find a ride for you. If you are not a registered client you can call and register ASAP and we can then try to find you a ride for the event. SCFB's office phone number is 703-323-4788.

If Fairfax County public schools are closed or have a delayed opening on Mar 21 due to inclement weather, this event will be cancelled.

RSVP DEADLINE
3-15-24

Cost: Lunch and
Program - \$15.00 per
person
Please contact Bea
Stephenson for
reservations at 703-273-
5730

NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Young Adult Ministry

- WHO ARE WE? WE ARE AN ALL-INCLUSIVE GROUP OF YOUNG ADULTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 19-39 WHO ARE IN THE "MIDDLE" WHETHER THEY ARE SINGLE, NEWLY MARRIED, WITH OR WITHOUT CHILDREN, OR PERHAPS A RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATE!
- WHAT DO WE OFFER? SMALL GROUPS, FELLOWSHIP, SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES, BASKETBALL, ETC.



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
SIGN UP



CALENDAR FOR
UPCOMING EVENTS



Women's Cursillo!

The next women's Cursillo weekend will be held at Missionhurst in Arlington from Thursday, March 14 – Sunday, March 17.

Cursillo (pronounced Cur-see-yo) is a movement of the Catholic Church that provides an opportunity to experience God's love within a community of joyful fun and supportive prayer. The weekend is designed to promote Catholic ideals, fellowship, and spiritual growth in daily living. We'd love to have you join us!! For more information, please contact Laura Laverdiere at lauralaverdiere@msn.com. There are also Cursillo information cards in the information rack in the narthex.

Applications, and more information are available online at: <https://www.arlingtoncursillo.org/>.

Laugh the night away with friends and family

COMEDY NIGHT

with
JEFF ALLEN



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24
7:30 p.m.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

St. Paul VI Catholic High School
42341 Braddock Rd., Chantilly, VA 20152
Proceeds go to the Fund for Paul VI



girl scouts

LEADERS WANTED!

CONTACT: NATIVITYTROOP@GMAIL.COM





Catholic Charities Education and Workforce Development Health Care Career Launchpad - 18-week class in Manassas

Explore clinical and non-clinical healthcare. Gain insight on different career pathways, learn basic computer skills, learn medical terminology, and obtain assistance with job skills such as resume writing and job searching. To learn more: (571) 208-1572 or ewd@ccda.net.

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



NO HANDS BUT YOURS MINISTRY

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 D.C. AND NORTHERN VIRGINIA
EVERY SUNDAY MORNING, RAIN OR SHINE.
FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT THE NATIVITY PARISH WEBSITE
OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN DAILY/SUNDAY
RUNS, PLEASE CONTACT JOHN RUBINO AT:
JOHN.ALBERT.RUBINO@GMAIL.COM.



ORDER OF MALTA®
Federal Association U.S.A.
Northern Virginia Region

*Cordially invites Individuals (and Companions) with illness
or physical / mental challenges to attend*

MASS AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Principal Celebrant
The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington

SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH
3901 Woodburn Road * Annandale, Virginia 22003
Saturday, March 16, 2024

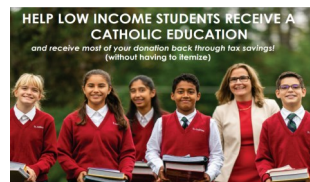
11:00 AM

Please arrive **NLT 10:30 am** to allow adequate time for parking and seating

Please RSVP to Brian Newsome, KM
nova.malta.mass@gmail.com
[Telephone: 323-505-8846]

PLEASE PROVIDE:
NAME(s) of those attending the Mass
DIETARY RESTRICTIONS for the Luncheon following the Mass
CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS or TELEPHONE NUMBER

*Immediately following the Mass, the Order will host a
Light Luncheon in Saint Ambrose Parish Hall
Candidates, Dames, and Knights of the Order of Malta
will provide and collect prayer petitions to be taken to Lourdes in May*



Diocese of Arlington Scholarship Foundation

*Help low income students receive a Catholic Education
and receive most of your donation back through tax savings!
(without having to itemize)*

The Virginia Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credit Program will award a 65% state tax credit for donations made to the Diocese of Arlington Scholarship Foundation, (DASF), which provide scholarships for low-income students new to our diocesan Catholic Schools. You do not have to itemize in order to use the 65% tax credit! Donations must be preauthorized in advance. Please call Jeanne Combos at 703-841-2764 (or email DASF@arlingtondiocese.org), or go online for more details and to download the preauthorization request form at:
<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/Scholarship-Foundation/>



Teacher Job Fair

Saturday, March 9, 2024

9-11 AM

St. Bernadette Catholic School

7602 Old Keene Mill Road
Springfield, VA

Explore

website

[https://arlingtondiocese.org/
catholicschools](https://arlingtondiocese.org/catholicschools)

job openings

[https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/catholic-
schools/careers/](https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/catholic-schools/careers/)

application process

[https://arlingtondiocese.org/catholic-schools/
careers/application/](https://arlingtondiocese.org/catholic-schools/careers/application/)

Register



**Can't make it in person? Representatives from the
Office of Catholic Schools will be available to
answer your questions**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84701499805?
pwd=b3RDanpORmFkQ0tnd2FDVFhRSERHZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84701499805?pwd=b3RDanpORmFkQ0tnd2FDVFhRSERHZz09)

Discover the Diocese of Arlington. Meet with school representatives to explore teaching in one of the **37** elementary schools, **4** high schools and **4** stand-alone preschools serving over **18,000** students in the **13** cities and counties in this growing diocese. Our schools are seeking highly-qualified, faith-filled and dynamic professionals.



ENCOUNTER BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY

This encounter is an opportunity for you to “walk with” the Black community within our Diocese. This day trip in the City of Alexandria will have you visiting historical sites, learning about Black Saints, and encountering the beauty of Black Catholic expression. Moreover, you will prayerfully examine the effects of racism and how Jesus calls us to empathy, contrition, and healing.

This document provides a general overview of this experience, however, please go to www.tinyurl.com/blackcatholic on your portable device (or scan the QR code below) for links to the full experience.



DIocese of ARLINGTON
YOUTH, CAMPUS, &
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES



"You know what I'm talkin' about Church? I mean, are y'all walking with me Church? Surviving our history physically, mentally, emotionally, morally, spiritually, faithfully, and joyfully – our people developed a culture that was African and American" [...] and, despite all of this, [...] Blacks [...] are still struggling [...] still trying to find home in the homeland and home in the Church." (Sr. Thea Bowman's Address to the U.S. Bishop's Conference June 1989).

The Black Catholic experience is robust. It is ripe with beauty, brimming with joy, and spurred by heartfelt passion and religious devotion. However, part of the story comes from the communal ability to maintain these qualities amidst prejudice, fear, ignorance, and ultimately, sin. Sister Thea's words challenge us, as a Church, to not stand still amidst racial tension. Rather, she asks that our "next step" be to "walk with" her and the Black community; to face and absorb the rich and complex journey of what it means to be Black, American, and Catholic. Within our Diocese, the City of Alexandria has become a repository of African American culture and history due to its complicated and unique role within our nation's struggle with racial issues. That is why today we take Sr. Thea up on her challenge to walk with her, the Black community, and Jesus Christ so that the entire human family can find their "home and homeland in the Church."

PLACES TO VISIT

St. Joseph Catholic Church in Alexandria. Established in 1915, this beautiful church welcomes people of all races and nationalities and many are drawn by its friendly atmosphere and African-American talent for liturgical expression.



Alexandria African American Heritage Memorial Park. The park was established in 1995 and includes a one-acre 19th century cemetery, sculptures, and wetlands.



Edmonson Sisters Sculpture & Historical Marker. Erected by the city of Alexandria in 2010, this sculpture depicts the Edmonson sisters who were enslaved until freed in 1848.



Freedom House Museum. Once the largest and most successful domestic slave trading firm in America, this building has been converted into a museum that tells the story of the slave trade and those who suffered because of it.



Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery. A burial ground for countless people who found refuge in Alexandria when the Union occupied it. Black Union soldiers were also buried here until they demanded the honor of being buried in Soldiers' Cemetery.



The Pauline Bookstore. A Catholic shop run by the Daughters of St. Paul right here in Alexandria. Be sure to drop by and get something to commemorate your trip!



BEFORE YOU GO

Plan your visit by:

1. Checking out the websites for each place.
2. Reading all the resources to choose which ones you want to use.
3. Make a packing list to include: your favorite snacks, lunch, sunscreen, a hat, picnic blanket, water, umbrella, journal, pen, money, printouts of Rev. Scott A. Bailey's article "Ministry in the Black Catholic Community, and something to listen to music and podcasts.

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

1st Sunday of Lent

Sunday, February 18

Gn 9:8-15
Ps 25:4-9
1 Pt 3:18-22
Mk 1:12-15

Monday, February 19

Lv 19:1-2,11-18
Ps 19:8-10,15
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday, February 20

Is 55:10-11
Ps 34:4-7,16-19
Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday, February 21

Jon 3:1-10
Ps 51:3-4,12-13,18-19
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday, February 22
Chair of Peter, Apostle

1 Pt 5:1-4
Ps 23:1-3a,4-6
Mt 16:13-19

Friday, February 23

Ez 18:21-28
Ps 130:1-8
Mt 5:20-26

Saturday, February 24

Dt 26:16-19
Ps 119:1-2,4-5,7-8
Mt 5:43-48

Today's Gospel reading shows us the first thing that Jesus did after his baptismal anointing in the Jordan River: He wrestled with temptation.

His baptism had marked the moment of his complete surrender to the Father's will. As he arose from the water, he began a new life of ministry.

The Father responded by telling him that he was very pleased, and the Holy Spirit filled his humanness. Jesus as God already had the Holy Spirit (he and the Spirit were the same God), but Jesus the fully human Son now came fully alive in the Spirit. We can imagine how this experience in the Jordan River gave him the feeling of an elated spiritual high. And the next thing that happens is an attack of the devil.

The same pattern repeats itself in our lives. As soon as we experience new growth in our faith, or a new calling to do the Father's will, we run smack into a situation that tests the strength and sincerity of our faith. However, if this didn't happen, how would we find out that we've spiritually matured? How would we know that we are ready to make a significant difference for the kingdom of God?

Sometimes without consciously thinking it, we decide that if we're going to be tested and we might lose, wouldn't it be better not to start something new? Well, that's another temptation!

Lent is the perfect time to examine the temptations that we



face every day and turn them into new growth that will strengthen our faith.

Every time we face a sin and seek God's forgiveness, we become stronger. And if we take

it a step farther by walking into the confessional with it, we also receive powerful graces directly from Jesus, through the priest, that will render temptations much more powerless.

And this makes us more useful to God in the mission of conquering evil in the world and helping his kingdom spread into the lives of the people around us.

Think of temptations as blessings in disguise: Use them as opportunities to become more like Jesus and grow powerful in the faith.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † How well do you recognize temptation?
- † How quickly do you rely on the faith that God has given you to say no to the devil's tricks?
- † Describe a time when you experienced a spiritual high and then faced a strong temptation. How did you handle it?
- † What role did (or will) Jesus play in overcoming this temptation?



HORARIO DE CUARESMA

Vía Crucis

Cada Viernes de Cuaresma a partir del 16 de Febrero,
en Inglés a las 7:00 pm y en Español a las 8:00 pm

Caballeros de Colón - Pescado frito de Cuaresma

Viernes 22 de Marzo
de 6:00 pm a 9:00 pm

Confesión adicional, La Luz está

ENCENDIDA para Ti

Celebra el Sacramento de la Reconciliación,
Cada Miércoles durante la Cuaresma,
a partir del 21 de Febrero de 6:30 pm a 8:00 pm

Cenas de sopa de Cuaresma

Miércoles durante la Cuaresma de 5:30 pm a 7:00 pm:
21 y 28 de Febrero, 6 y 13 de Marzo

Hora Santa "Ven a Caminar Conmigo"

y Meditaciones con el tenor Mark Forrest
Miércoles 20 de Marzo, de 7:00 pm a 8:00 pm

Servicio de Penitencia de Cuaresma

Jueves 21 de Marzo a las 6:30 pm
Muchos sacerdotes estaran disponibles para escuchar
confesiones en Inglés y en Español

LA PETICIÓN CUARESMAL DEL OBISPO DE 2024

He aquí que yo haré nuevas todas las cosas

Este fin de semana se pide a cada familia que haga una promesa de contribución o una donación a la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo. Esta Petición nos ofrece la oportunidad de unirnos como familia católica para apoyar las programas, ministerios y servicios de ayuda a decenas de miles de personas. Después de reflexionar sobre las bendiciones que Dios les ha dado, piensen en la posibilidad de hacer una promesa de contribución a la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo.

Para hacer una ofrenda pueden llenar la tarjeta correspondiente durante la Misa, enviarla por correo postal, hacer la ofrenda en línea en www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA o escanear el código QR que aparece a continuación:



ESCANÉAME



LA FEDE CINCO HOMBRES - 7º T.O. (B) Javier Leoz

Sí, porque, ¿quién le contó al paralítico que Jesús se encontraba en una de aquellas casas de planta baja?
¿Quién le hizo llegar la noticia que su vida clavada a una camilla, como la del leproso o la suegra de Pedro, podría cambiar de la noche a la mañana?

¿A quién se le ocurrió la brillante idea, en un intento desesperado por llegarse hasta Jesús, de abrir en círculo un tejado y desprender a través de él la camilla con el paralítico?

Ni más ni menos que aquellos cuatro hombres que, haciendo de buenos samaritanos, o de jinetes del mal ajeno, transportaron con sus manos, desde la distancia de la parálisis hasta el encuentro con la vida, al paralítico.

-No era pues uno el que creía; eran cinco

-No era uno el que se fiaba; eran cinco

-No era uno el que buscaba a Jesús; eran cinco

-No era uno el que estaba paralizado; uno quería andar algo, y los otros cuatro, tal vez, un poco mejor. Porque sin la ayuda de los cuatro ¿Qué hubiera pasado?

2. La fe se vive mejor en comunidad. Y, con fe viva, los cinco fueron al encuentro de Jesús. Y, a los cinco, reconoció el Señor la grandeza y la profundidad de su fe. Una vez más, la comunidad empuja, alienta, reza y ayuda a llevar la cruz. ¿Somos nosotros alentadores, rezadores, y camilleros de las debilidades de los demás? ¿Hacemos palanca y abrimos agujeros en los tejados de aquellas personas que necesitan un poco de aire para respirar o una ventana por la que poder descubrir un horizonte para sus vidas?

Como cristianos, como confidentes y amigos de Jesús, no podemos dejar que el personal se las apañe solo. Siempre, en una cruz, hay lugar y espacio para una mano. Y cuántas cruces que no pueden salir de sus vías dolorosas porque no encuentran personas bien dispuestas y decididas a empujar. Cuántas, de esas cruces, tan sólo escuchan lamentos o...eso no es cosa mía.

3. Que el evangelio de este día, incluso gráficamente, nos ayude y nos estimule a abrir nuestras iglesias, y por supuesto a visitarlas. Nuestra conciencia, al ver una iglesia abierta, nos tendría que hacer sentir que, el Señor, está dentro, esperándonos, aguardándonos para curarnos de tantas cosas.

¿Qué pena los templos cerrados por mil excusas no del todo ciertas! ¿No será ya el momento de abrir los boquetes de las puertas para posibilitar encuentros con la fe, conversaciones con el silencio, posibilidades al perdón, encuentros con la oración, diálogos con el crucificado? Si; ya sé que alguno me dirá que para hablar con Dios no hace falta recurrir al templo. Pero ¿no os parece que estamos escasos de tranquilidad y sosiego en el entorno que nos movemos? ¿No os parece que es casi un milagro –por no decir un privilegio– el encontrar un espacio que nos facilite la reflexión y la contemplación? Ojala que, como esos cuatro camilleros, también nosotros –los padres de familia, los catequistas, los sacerdotes, tantos y tantos grupos comprometidos en la vida de la Iglesia– seamos capaces de tener la valentía suficiente y el desparramo necesario para empujar a todo paralítico que salga a nuestro encuentro (tibios o fríos en la fe) y llevarles al encuentro de la palabra de vida eterna. Merece la pena intentarlo.



Las clases medias de la santidad
Además de los santos de primera hay por el mundo algunos
santos de segunda y bastantes de tercera
Por: José Luis Martín Descalzo | Fuente: Razones para el amor

Joseph Maleguez -ese gran novelista cristiano que en España no ha sido ni siquiera traducido- dejó a medio escribir una novela cuyo título era el mismo que yo he puesto a este artículo. Y en ella -por los pocos fragmentos que se conocen- desarrollaba una idea ya varias veces apuntada en sus obras anteriores: que para profundizar en los fenómenos religiosos no hay que explorar sólo en el alma de los grandes santos, de los santos de primera, de los aristócratas de la santidad, sino que «las almas modestas contaban también; contaban además las clases medias de la santidad».

Nada más cierto. Porque tal vez estamos demasiado acostumbrados a trazar una distinción excesivamente neta entre la santidad y la mediocridad. A un lado estarían esas diez docenas de titanes del espíritu que tomaron el evangelio por donde más quemaba y realizaron una vida incandescente. Al otro estaríamos nosotros, los que vegetamos en el cristianismo.

Y ésta es una distinción, además de falsa, terriblemente desalentadora. Pensamos: como yo no tendré jamás el coraje de ser un Francisco de Asís, vamos a limitarnos a cumplir y a esperar que Dios nos meta al final en el cielo por la puerta de servicio. La santidad se nos presenta así como una zarza incombustible, imposible no sólo para nosotros, sino incluso para cualquiera que viva en nuestras circunstancias. Además, pensamos para agravar las cosas, los santos hacen milagros y nosotros ya tenemos bastante con no hacer pecados. La solución es la siesta.

Pero, si abrimos con más atención los ojos, vemos que además de los santos de primera hay por el mundo algunos santos de segunda y bastantes de tercera. Esa buena gente que ama a Dios, esas personas que, cuando estamos con ellas, nos dan el sentimiento casi físico de la presencia viva de Dios; almas sencillas, pero entregadas; normales, pero fidelísimas. Auténticas clases medias de la santidad.

Quien más, quien menos, todos hemos encontrado en el mundo dos o tres docenas de almas así. Y hemos sido felices de estar a su lado. Y hemos pensado que, con un poco más de esfuerzo, hasta nosotros podríamos parecer un poco a ellas. Y sentimos que este tipo de personas sostienen nuestra fe y que, en definitiva, en su sencillez, son una de las grandes señales de la presencia de Dios en la Iglesia.

Yo he conocido a muchos de estos santos de tercera o segunda -empezando por mis padres- a quienes no canonizaría. Incluso me daría un poco de risa imaginármelos con un arito en torno a la cabeza y ellos se pondrían muy colorados si alguien se lo colocara. Pero, sin embargo, me han parecido almas tan verdaderas, que en ellas he visto siempre reflejado lo que más me gusta de Dios: su humildad.

Creo que de esto se habla poco. Y, no obstante, yo creo que tiene razón Moeller cuando escribe que «el centro del cristianismo es el misterio de esta humildad de Dios». Es cierto: en el catecismo nos hablaron mucho del Dios todopoderoso y a veces llegamos a imaginarnos a un Dios soberbio, cuajado de pedrerías, actuando siempre a través de milagros y hablando con voz tonante. Pero la realidad es que, cuando Dios se hizo visible, todo fue humilde y sencillo. Se hizo simplemente un hombre a quien sus enemigos pudieron abofetear sin que sacara terribles relámpagos del cielo. Un Dios que es humilde en su revelación, hecha a través de textos también humildes, difíciles de interpretar, expuestos a tergiversaciones, mucho menos claros de los que escribiría un matemático perfeccionista. Un Dios humilde en su Iglesia, que no construyó como una elite de perfectos, sino como una esposa indefensa y mil veces equivocada, tartamudeante y armada con una modesta honda y unos pocos guijarros frente al Goliath del mundo. Humilde también en la tierra en que quiso nacer, en esa Palestina que ni es un prodigio de belleza física ni un paraíso de orden, una especie de Suiza del espíritu.

«El Señor de la gloria -escribe también Moeller- no ha querido ni el poder ni la nada, ni el trueno ni el silencio del abismo, pues el poder tiránico a la sombra nada son lo contrario del amor. El amor quiere la dulzura humilde y gratuita, no se defiende, ofrece de antemano su cuello a los verdugos y, sin embargo, es más poderoso que la muerte y mil torrentes de agua no podrán extinguir el fuego de la caridad. El amor quiere también la vida, la dulce vida; el amor da la vida y no la nada.»

Por eso a este Dios humilde le van muy bien los santos humildes y pequeños, los santos del aprobadoillo. Y es una suerte que nos permite no desanimarnos a quienes tenemos un amor de hoguera (¡o de cerilla!) y jamás llegaremos a su amor de volcán.

Incluso el camino hacia Dios está muy bien hecho. Es como un monte al que hay que subir. Y tiene dos caminos: uno de cabras, que va en derechura desde la falda a la cima, escarpado, durísimo, empinadísimo, y un camino carretero, que sube también, pero en zigzag, dando vueltas y vueltas en espiral hacia la cumbre.

Los santos, los verdaderos santos, suben por el de cabras, dejándose la piel en las esquinas de las rocas. Ellos lo dan todo de una vez, viven hora a hora en la tensión del amor perfecto.

Pero los demás temblamos ante ese camino. No porque no tengamos pulmones para ello -porque los santos no tienen mejor «madera» que nosotros, sino porque somos cobardes y le damos a Dios trozos de amor, guardándonos en el zurrón buenos pedazos de amor propio.

Naturalmente, a quien Dios le dé el coraje del camino de cabras, que San Pedro se lo bendiga y multiplique. Pero, en definitiva, lo que importa es subir, lo necesario es amar, aunque sea con un amor tartamudo. Y, entonces, bendito sea el camino carretero.

Con la ventaja, además, de que, en cada vuelta del camino, el camino carretero se cruza un momento con el de cabras: son esos instantes de verdadera santidad que todos, por fortuna, tenemos. Hay incluso veces en las que -sobre todo en la juventud- nos atrevemos a hacer algún trecho por la senda de cabras, aunque luego regrese la flojera y volvamos a tomar el camino en espiral. Bien, lo importante es seguir subiendo, seguir amando, aunque se haga mal.

Lo que no hay que olvidar es que, al final de la escalada, cuando ya se está cerca de la cima, los dos caminos, el carretero y el de cabras, desaparecen. Y entonces ya sólo queda la roca viva. Por la que sólo se puede subir con guía. O llevados en brazos. Como Dios nos llevará a todos en el último repechón que conduce al abrazo en la muerte.



What did Jesus say?

Find words that don't make sense or seem out of place. Replace them with words from the list that have only 1 letter different.

| | | | |
|------|------|---------|------|
| TIME | NEAR | THE | SAID |
| HAS | COME | BELIEVE | GOOD |

"THE TOME HAS COMB,"
HE PAID,
"SHE KINGDOM OF
GOD HAT COME BEAR.
REPENT AND
RELIEVE
THE GOLD NEWS!"

What happened to Jesus after He was baptized?

Use this code to fill in the blanks.

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------|---------------|-----|-----|-----|
| F | | = O | <i>pp</i> = M | = W | = Y | = J |
| D | | = I | # = S | = C | = U | = V |
| B | | <i>f</i> = E | = R | = D | = F | |
| G | | <i>ff</i> = N | = A | = L | = B | |
| E | | <i>r</i> = T | = H | = P | = G | |

Musical notation puzzle using the code above. The notation consists of a series of notes, rests, and dynamic markings on a five-line staff, intended to be decoded into a sequence of letters.



Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

February 18, 2024 • Mark 1:9-15

Jesus: Temptation and Good News

When Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River, He saw heaven being torn open and He heard a voice. What did the voice from heaven say?

Shade in all the shapes with a * symbol to find the answers.



"You are My _____, Whom I _____;
with You I am well _____."

What happened next?

Follow the directions to find the answer. Start with: J E S U S.

1. Change the S's to C's.

J E C U C

2. Change the second C to a P.

3. Change the J to MI.

4. Add an O before the U.

5. Change the U to an R.

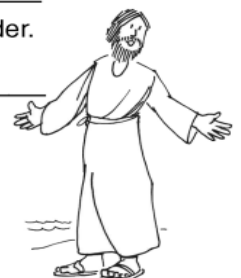
6. Change the E to AL.

7. Add GNI before MI.

8. Write all the letters in reverse order.

After John was put into prison, Jesus went into Galilee,

the good news of God.



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