

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"...LOVE YOUR ENEMIES..."
-Matthew 5:44



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

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

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

**MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION PROGRAM:**

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

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454 2415



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

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

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

HOLY DAY MASSES: As Announced

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

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

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

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

WEBMASTER: Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

SOCIAL MEDIA: Mary Castellano,
socialmedia@nativityburke.org

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



@Nativity Parish Burke



@nativityparishburke_

A Message from our Pastor
Fr. Bob Cilinski



REFLECTION

The Lord commanded the people to be holy, "For I the LORD your God am holy" (Lv 19:2). The essential ingredients of holiness are love, mercy, kindness, and compassion. For example, we can admonish people if we are offended by their actions, but we cannot take any sort of revenge. God doesn't deal with us this way, and neither should we deal with each other this way.

Paul reminds us that the spirit of God dwells in us in the same way that God dwells in the most sacred place of the temple. If the temple of God is holy, how much more holy are we? This should give us no cause to boast but make us all the more humble.

Jesus shows us that the way of love is non-retaliation and non-violence. In a world trapped in an endless cycle of "an eye for an eye" (Mt 5:38), Jesus asks us to forgo vengeance. Instead, he tells us, we should place no limits on love. We should not make a pretense of holiness but be transformed by the holiness of God.

For Reflection - Do I bear God's love even to my enemies? Do I pray for those who harass or maltreat me?

Congratulations to the Kansas City Chiefs for winning the Superbowl!

Love and Blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski
Fr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

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



In the St. Lucy Food Drive, you donated 14,484 lbs of food and more than \$5,600 which will make a big difference in the lives of many families in the Diocese!
The next St. Lucy "Drive-By/Drop-Off" Food Drive will take place in June 2023.
Please look for us then and consider donating! And again, Thank You!!!

Your donations filling up the large St. Lucy Truck.



In Observance of Presidents' Day the Parish Office will be closed all day on Monday, February 20th

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)

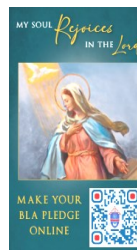
Live stream 7:30am & 8:00pm

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



2023 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA): "My soul rejoices in the Lord." is underway. 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 BLA pledge. You may mail in your pledge, go online to www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code to make a gift. Thank you!

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.



Nativity Catholic Church



ENTER INTO LENT

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

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



donut worry!

THIS WEEKEND IS DONUT SUNDAY

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Book for 2023 is open with many dates available. This is a thoughtful way to honor a loved one, living or deceased. If you are interested, please stop by the parish office to sign up. You can now also go online and reserve flowers on our website at: <https://nativityburke.org/altar-flowers/>.

**PARISH RETREAT AT LOYOLA
 Men's Retreat, March 17th-19th
 Women's Retreat, March 10th- 12th**

Renew your spirit during Lent with a retreat at the Loyola Retreat House in southern Maryland. This year's retreat theme is: *"If Today You Hear God's Voice."* To reserve your room, call Loyola at 301-392-0800. The suggested offering for the weekend is \$245. (\$195 for first timers or young adults under age 35).

You can review the retreat schedule and also reserve a room online at www.loyolaonthepotomac.com. Take some time to *"Come Away and Rest Awhile"* and spend a some prime time during Lent with God.

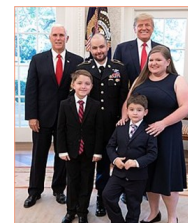
***On This Date in Nativity History
 October 1, 2018***

On October 1, 2018, Nativity parishioner Staff Sergeant Ronald Shurer of the United States Army was awarded the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award for valor above and beyond the call of duty. The award was presented to Sergeant Shurer by President Donald J. Trump in a ceremony at the White House attended by about 250, including Nativity Pastor Father Bob Cilinski.

Staff Sergeant Shurer was recognized for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life" during a combat engagement in Afghanistan's Shok Valley on April 6, 2008. As the senior medic for a Special Forces Team, Staff Sergeant Shurer was called upon to go to the aid of a number of wounded Special Forces troops. Staff Sergeant Shurer was under fire from enemy forces for more than hour and was himself wounded. He repeatedly moved through enemy fire and over extremely rough and mountainous terrain to rescue and treat five wounded American troops and then to move them to safety, often shielding them with his own body during the evacuation.

Staff Sergeant Shurer was born in Alaska in 1978 and spent his youth in Washington State where both his parents were stationed at McChord Air Force Base near Tacoma. In 2001, he graduated from Washington State University with a degree in business administration. Following the terrorist attacks on 9/11, Staff Sergeant Shurer enlisted in the U.S. Army and trained to be a Special Forces medic. He was deployed to Afghanistan with the 3rd Special Forces Group from November 2007 to May 2008 in Operation Enduring Freedom. After he left the Army in 2009, Staff Sergeant Shurer began a career with the Secret Service. He was diagnosed with lung cancer in 2017 and died May 14, 2020, at Washington's Sibley Memorial Hospital. He was survived by his wife, Miranda, and sons Cameron and Tyler, seen in the photo below with President Trump and Vice President Mike Pence.

Staff Sergeant Ron Shurer's funeral Mass was held at Nativity October 27, 2020.



This historical note is the 37th of a weekly Bulletin feature leading up to Nativity's fiftieth anniversary, 11 June 2023.

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!

St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance

Come join the Knights of Columbus for the traditional celebration of the Patron Saint of Ireland at our Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance to be held in



**the Father Martin Center at 6:30 PM on
Saturday, March 18, 2023**

It is always a great evening of dining, dancing and entertainment. There will be a bag piper playing original Irish tunes, music for listening and dancing provided by a D.J. Bring your friends and reserve a table for 8 or 10 or meet fellow parishioners through designated seating.

You will enjoy the best corned beef dinner in town for \$35 per ticket. Children 12 and under tickets for \$15. Tickets will be sold on line via Eventbrite. Scan the code for tickets. This event usually sells out so please get your tickets early!



Preserving the Dignity of Life: Combatting Human Trafficking Saturday, March 11, 2023

Nativity Catholic Church, Burke

**Presented by the Diocese of Arlington Peace and Justice
Conference with Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington and William Woolf
Founder, Anti-Trafficking International and
the Just Ask Prevention Project**

- ◆ 5:00 p.m. - *Mass and Consecration of the new Altar
Bishop Burbidge celebrant*
- ◆ 6:30 p.m. - *Dinner*
- ◆ 7:15 p.m. - *Talk*
- ◆ 8:15 p.m. - *Q&A*

Human trafficking is the second largest criminal enterprise in the world - and it is increasing at an exponential rate. More than half of the victims of human trafficking are minors. Northern Virginia and the Washington Metropolitan area have among the largest number of cases of human trafficking in the U.S.

Find out how you can recognize signs of human trafficking happening in our communities and help stop this assault on human dignity.

"People think of human trafficking as kids being kidnapped, kids disappearing. Ninety percent of the kids being trafficked live at home, sleep in their own beds and go to school every day."
- Bill Woolf

For details and to register: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/events/2023/peace-and-justice-conference/>

The Seven Sisters Apostolate

The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a call for women to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of our parish priests. It is a "holy wasting" or "lavishing of prayer" for their deeper conformity to Christ.

This apostolate is relatively new, having started in 2010 in Minnesota by Janette Howe. During a walk one day, it occurred to Janette that the very least she might do in gratitude for her priests' ever-generous pastoral care would be to offer a Holy Hour once a week for him. The rest is history! Learn more at sevensistersapostolate.org.

Last year, this Apostolate came to Nativity, and now we have Seven Sisters Apostolate prayer teams praying for Father Bob, Father Hayes, Father Bresnahan, and Father Wilson every day of the week! We also have a list of substitutes who are willing to offer a Holy Hour when called upon.

We will renew our commitment this summer, near the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We need a few more women to fill openings and be on the substitute list. It is simply just one hour a week, anytime during your day, an hour to spend with our Lord for your priest. The most ideal place to pray your Holy Hour is before the Blessed Sacrament exposed during Eucharistic Adoration, or before the Tabernacle at any Catholic Church is also fine. Contact Linda Loffredo at lindaloffredo@gmail.com for more information.

Young Adult Opportunity

Young Adults, join the Common Home Corps and be a part of our diocese's commitment to preserve the integrity of God's Creation! The Corps is a year-long leadership and formation program sponsored by the Catholic Climate Covenant. Participating young adults ages 18-39 will learn about Laudato Si', Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment, and learn how to work within our diocese to engage other young adults to pray, learn and participate in helping the Church to live its environmental teaching concretely.

Learn more here:

<https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/program/YYA>. Apply by February 28. Participants will receive:

- A week-long all-expenses-paid training at Loyola University Chicago, Thursday, June 15 through Monday, June 19, 2023.
- Ongoing support from the Catholic Climate Covenant.
- A \$3000 stipend for the year.
- A unique opportunity to help lead the effort to make the vision of Laudato Si' a reality in our diocese.

Make a difference with the Common Home Corps!

JOIN THE NATIVITY SCHOOL STAFF!

Consider joining our School Staff as part of our Extended Care Team to help us provide After-School Care by contacting our Extended Care Director, Mrs. Jen Behan at (703) 455-2300, or jbehan@nativityschool.org.

To assist us as a Lunch/Recess Monitor, or Substitute Teacher, please contact Rich Godwin at (703) 455-2300, or rgodwin@nativityschool.org.



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 went on sale 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!

**Collection For the Church in Central and Eastern Europe
Ash Wednesday, February 22nd**

"After night, there comes day... After darkness, there comes light, just as after death there comes resurrection."
- Major Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk

On February 24, Russia initiated military action against Ukraine with attacks throughout the country. Archbishop of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Kyiv, Sviatoslav Shevchuk, appeals to the faithful in Ukraine and around the world. In his appeal for prayers for the peace and safety of the Ukrainian people, he reminds us to place hope in Christ, that "after night, there comes day...After darkness, there comes light, just as after death there comes resurrection." The Church in Ukraine is helping to share and foster this hope even amidst this violence. Though curfews keep the faithful from gathering in churches, "the Church will come to the people" by continuing to celebrate liturgy and provide the Sacraments in bomb shelters and underground stations. Pope Francis has called upon the Universal Church to pray and fast especially for peace in Ukraine on Ash Wednesday, March 2. Catholics in the US can also show their solidarity by participating in the annual Collection for the Church in Central Eastern Europe. The collection will help the Church in Ukraine bring the light of Christ to the faithful affected by the darkness of war, violence, and loss of families and homes and provide other essential funding in the region. Your support of this collection is a tangible way of assisting the Church's response and outreach to those affected and displaced by the violence.

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](mailto:Brigid.Williams@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

For more details and registration visit:
NativityTrivia.givesmart.com. Register by March 1
Single tickets - \$10 or tables of 8 - \$80

**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.




**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 2/18 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 20th
7:30 am Special Int. for Bernard & Theresa Bresnahan

Tuesday, February 21st
7:30 am † Columba Pedro & Rocky Monteron
12:00 pm † Michael Horvat

Wednesday, February 22nd
6:00 am † John Hayes
7:30 am † Ann Woo
9:00 am † John J. Girolami
10:00 am † *Special Intention for Jacqueline & Family (Heatherwood Retirement Home)*
12:00 pm † James McHale Noone
4:00 pm † John Rowley
6:00 pm † Ines Llano
8:00 pm † Joey Wheeler


Thursday, February 23rd
7:30 am Special Intention
12:00 pm Special Int. for the High Family

Friday, February 24th
7:30 am Special Int. for Lottie Buhain

Saturday, February 25th
9:00 am Parishioners
5:00 pm † Alice Brown
7:00 pm † Ricardo Jaramillo

Sunday, February 26th
7:00 am † Frank Klimkos
9:00 am † Aninyou Morkos
11:00 am † Michael & Maria Simko
1:00 pm Special Int. for Tony & Kathy Wolf
5:30 pm † John Rowley

**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.**



Women's Cursillo! The next women's Cursillo weekend will be held at Missionhurst in Arlington from Thursday, April 20 – Sunday, April 23

Cursillo (pronounced Cur-see-yo) is a movement of the 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://arlingtoncursillo.org/weekend-archives/> (The next men's weekend will also be held at Missionhurst from Thursday, September 21 through Sunday September 24).



Linktree Universal Sign-up Link: Want to volunteer for an event? https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992

Donut Sunday: Stop by after the 7:00, 9:00, 11:00AM Mass this weekend to help with Donut Sunday and Recruiting.

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 7:00 PM. Sign up on the linktree.

Catholic Financial Planning Seminar: All parishoners 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! The next planning meeting is Feb 27 at 7:00 pm in the Church Conference Room. Contact Br. Pat Bradshaw at pbradshaw2@verizon.net to help.

40 Days for Life: Fall Campaign is February 22-April 2. We will be peacefully praying the pro-life Rosary in front of the Falls Church abortion facility at 900 S. Washington St, Falls Church. Join us for Nativity's all-day vigil from 7:00am -7:00pm, Friday, March 31. Please contact Br. Rick at rickloffredo@outlook.com for more details.

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 on Friday evenings contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com.

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 michaelbam-bender@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](mailto:navy8@yahoo.com).

Join the Knights! The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend values in a busy changing world. Join today! Simply go to <https://info.kofc.org/us.html> and enter our council #7992 for local information and to register. E-membership for the first year is free using the new code "blessedmcgivney". Please email our Deputy Grand Knight at PMDELATTE@gmail.com or the Grand Knight at tjsgk7992@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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

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 9:00 PM. Registration is now open on the Nativity website: <https://nativityburke.org/33-days/#register> or contact Steve at 33dayconsecration@nativityburke.org.

Supporting Mental Health Recovery

If you have a family member or friend, aged 18 years of age or older, with a mental illness, we would welcome you to a National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Northern Virginia Family Support Group where we will share strategies and information to help ourselves and our loved ones.

The group is led by co-facilitators trained by NAMI.

When: 2nd Thursday of the Month | 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Where: Virtual on Zoom - registration through the NAMI Northern Virginia website to receive the zoom link.

<https://nami-northernvirginia.org/events/category/family-support/list/>. Contact: Esther Lee at elee@nami-nova.org to be added for group meeting reminders and questions.

SAVE THE DATE!

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



A message from Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Posted on our website at <https://nativityburke.org/service/creation-care/> under Resources, is the annual Lenten Creation Care calendar, created by Virginia Interfaith Power & Light (VAIPL). VAIPL collaborates among people of faith and conscience to grow healthy communities by advancing climate and environmental justice. The calendar provides weekly themes and daily actions for the seven weeks of Lent. The theme for Week one is Mobility Justice—The Freedom to Move. Do we take our "freedom to move" for granted? What about its costs? Do we use transportation wisely with concern for its impacts? VAIPL points out the value of farmers markets in cutting down on emissions caused by transporting food long distances. Make a note on your calendar--our local county farmer's market by the Burke VRE opens April 22 while the FreshFarm Farmers Market in the Mosaic District is open year-round on Sundays from 10am-2 pm. Farmers Markets are a great source of ingredients for your Meatless Mondays.



**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.



NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



Nativity Game Night - Family Fun For Everyone

More than 20 families gathered in the Father Martin Center for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship – at the PTO’s Game Night! Card games, board games, building games, puzzles, and more – all made for fun for the whole family!

A very special thank you to Julie Wilson for organizing the cornhole tournament. Congratulations to winners Ryan and Mike Gallagher!



Join Us ~WE HAVE A SEAT FOR YOUR CHILD

Thank you for coming to our recent OPEN HOUSE. We really enjoyed meeting and talking with all of you. We look forward to further discussions with you about your child/ren's academic future here at Nativity. For further information, please contact Shannon Murphy at (703), or smurph@nativityschool.org.

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

Upcoming Dates At-A-Glance!

- Feb. 20: No School – Presidents’ Day
- Feb. 21: Spartan’s Restaurant Fundraiser Night
- Feb. 22: Ash Wednesday
- Feb. 23: 7th Grade Parent Confirmation Meeting 7:00 pm
- Feb. 24: 2nd Grade Hall of Presidents
- Feb. 27: 4th Grade Leads Rosary

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

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.

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

SEEKING TEEN PARTICIPANTS FOR LIVING STATIONS

We are looking for actors and students to help with costumes, music, and assistant directing to present the freeze frame Living Stations on March 31 at 7 pm.



ALTAR FLOWERS Donated by



The Vargas Family
In Loving Memory of
Maria Anjelica Soriano

The Reinhard family
In Loving Memory of
Lloyd and Evelyn Reinhard

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!



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 charism of Nativity parish. This will highlight the scripture from Matthew 25 when Jesus describes how we will be judged. It will be a teaching reminder to any who say: *"If its not on the final exam, I don't want to study it."* Pope Francis has called us *"to be a church for the poor."* These seven mosaics will also provide a balance visually in the church.... and in our lives.

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

Blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski,
Pastor

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

The Diocese of Arlington Peace and Justice Conference presents

Preserving the Dignity of Life:
Combatting Human Trafficking

with

Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge

Bishop of Arlington

and Bill Woolf

Founder, Anti-Trafficking International and the Just Ask Prevention Project

Saturday, March 11, 2023

Nativity Catholic Church, Burke VA

5:00 PM Mass and Consecration of the new Altar, Bishop Burbidge celebrant

6:30 PM Dinner

7:15 PM Talk followed by Q&A

Human trafficking, the second largest criminal enterprise in the world, is increasing at an exponential rate. Our region has among the largest number of cases of human trafficking in the U.S., and more than half of the victims are minors.

Learn how to recognize signs of human trafficking and help stop this assault on human dignity.

*“People think of human trafficking as kids being kidnapped, kids disappearing. **Ninety percent of the kids being trafficked live at home, sleep in their own beds and go to school every day.**”*

– Bill Woolf



To register or watch the Mass and event on livestream, scan the QR code.



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARLINGTON

Glorify God. Protect His Creation.



Join us for a

St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance

Saturday, March 18
from 6:30pm until 10:00pm



Fr Martin Center
Nativity Catholic Church
6400 Nativity Ln, Burke, VA 22015



Enjoy a Fantastic Corned Beef Dinner,
Entertainment, Cash Bar, and a DJ to
dance the night away.

Only \$35 per Adult, \$15 Kids 12 & Under

Everyone asked to bring a special
dessert to share

Purchase your tickets on-line here



ECHO NEWS

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

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

February Needs

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

REAL LIFE CHALLENGES,

REAL GOD SOLUTIONS

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

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

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

Must be registered for Youth Ministry before attending

NATIVITY - BAPTISM PROCEDURES

We are currently scheduling group Baptisms on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 2:00 pm in the Church for registered Nativity Parishioners. To register at Nativity Parish, please call the Parish Office for a parish registration form.

TO SCHEDULE A BAPTISM

Step 1: Paperwork

To begin the process, please first complete our Baptism Application which can be picked up from the parish office or downloaded from our website at:

<https://nativityburke.org/baptism/>

Please bring the following to the Parish Office:

1. Copy of child's Birth Certificate
2. A certificate of eligibility for your Catholic godparents. Please review our Godparent Requirements. Godparents who are registered members of Nativity do not need to provide a certificate.
3. Completed Baptism Application. Scheduling the date of the Baptism will take place ONLY after these items are received.

Step 2: Preparation for New Parents

If this is your first child (congratulations!), in addition to providing the above paperwork, parents must attend a Baptism Prep class. Godparents are welcome, too. Register Online for our Baptism Prep class at: <https://nativityburke.org/baptism/#preparation>

Step 3: Nativity Schedules the Baptism Date

At this point, please call our Baptismal Coordinator, Anna Marty, to review your paperwork, discuss any questions, and schedule the date and time of the Baptism. She is available Monday - Wednesday at the parish office, please call 703-455-2400 or email amarty@nativityburke.org.



Follow Bishop Burbidge on Twitter!

Bishop Burbidge has over 21,000 followers on Twitter! His daily reflections and posts are popular and insightful. Follow him @BishopBurbidge.



Join the Wolf Pack

at our spring events!

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

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

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

Applications Now Being Accepted



*What's
New at JP*

Jan 28, 1-3pm Drama Workshop

Feb-March Adult Bioethics Seminars

Mar 4, 9am-12pm Super Science Saturday

Mar 25, 9-11:30am Boys Basketball Clinic

May 6, 8am-12pm Pre-HSPT/Parent How to HS

Summer Camps Coming Soon!

SAINT JOHN PAUL THE GREAT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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

www.jpthegreat.org

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

WOMEN OF NATIVITY ANNUAL EASTER GIFT BAG PROJECT

On the WEEKEND of April 1 and 2, the Women of Nativity will collect items for our annual Easter Gift Bag Drive. In keeping with our tradition, we are again asking the Nativity community to help us in bringing even a small bit of joy to local children served by organizations in our community and congregation at this Easter season.

REQUESTED DONATIONS INCLUDE

- Easter candy - individually wrapped candies, chocolate rabbits, chocolate lambs, etc.
- Individually wrapped healthy snacks
- Small toys - to include small stuffed animals, jump ropes, bubbles, play-doh story books, Matchbox-size vehicles, etc.
- Crayons, markers, coloring books
- Personal care item for pre-teens
- Monetary donations of cash and checks (payable to Nativity Parish with "WON" on the memo line)

THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT WE ASSIST REQUEST THAT WE NOT ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- NO Easter baskets
- NO Easter grass
- NO plastic eggs
- NO candy that is not individually wrapped, i.e., jelly beans

We will collect items in the church vestibule before and after Masses (except for the 5:30pm Sunday Mass) on the weekend of April 1 and 2. Please drop your donations in the boxes located in the church vestibule. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. If you have any questions or would like pick-up donations, please contact Kathleen Powers at
or email: powersgang@aol.com



HIGH SCHOOL
Girls Small Group
WEDNESDAYS 7:00-8:30 PM | THE WELL

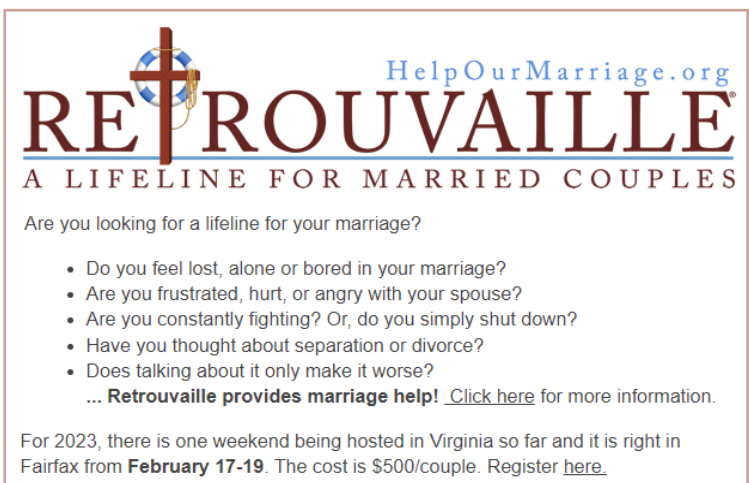
Join your Youth Ministry friends for a viewing of the mini series, The Chosen.
Must be registered for Youth Ministry before attending

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?

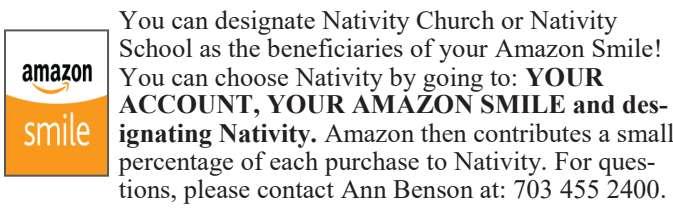
- Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
- Are you frustrated, hurt, or angry with your spouse?
- Are you constantly fighting? Or, do you simply shut down?
- Have you thought about separation or divorce?
- Does talking about it only make it worse?

... **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](#).

Sundays with the Sisters Rejoice Tour 2023

Witness the joy of our religious sisters during the Sundays with the Sisters Rejoice Tour 2023! An initiative for the year of preparation for our diocesan jubilee in 2024, the tour will showcase the religious women of our diocese who, like Mary, rejoice in the Lord by their daily surrender. The tour features an event at a different convent each month, bringing together sisters and lay women for prayer and community. For single women ages 18-50. **Heart of Mary; March 26: Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist.** RSVP by the Monday before each event to vocations@arlingtondiocese.org. More info at ArlingtonDiocese.org/RejoiceTour.



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

Donate Your Car to Catholic Charities!

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

Day of Prayer & Healing

Post-Abortion Retreat for Women
Saturday, March 25, 2023
Saturday, September 30, 2023

Día de Oración Y Sanación

Retiro después del Aborto Provocado para Mujeres:
sábado 25 de marzo del 2023
sábado 30 de septiembre del 2023

For confidential help / Para ayuda confidencial:

703.841.2504



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





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
Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington

SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
7401 Saint Michael's Lane
Annandale, Virginia 22003

Saturday, March 25, 2023
11:00 AM

*Please arrive **NLT 10:30 am** to allow adequate time for parking and seating
Candidates, Dames, and Knights of the Order of Malta
will provide prayer petitions to be taken to Lourdes in May*

Please RSVP to Brian Newsome, KM
nova.malta.mass@gmail.com
Or call 323-505-8846

Please provide:
Name(s) of those attending the Mass and
Contact email address or telephone number



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



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

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

Find it all here:



We offer healing to women who have experienced abortion

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



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

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

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.

"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..." - MATTHEW 5:44

Love your enemies, easier said than done. But, remember, the foundation of stewardship is prayer. When we are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it turns our attention away from "me" and moves it towards God and others. It changes my heart and actions, allowing for a little more empathy for "my enemy." When we pray for others, even our enemies, it may soften their hearts as well.

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



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.

For Young Adults (21-39)

You are part of a larger community that...

Serves with Christ House cooking breakfast every 3rd Saturday



Grows together in 6-week Bible studies



Plays Basketball every Thursday at 8:30pm in the Father Martin Center



Serves at Mass as a greeters, ushers, musicians and more!

New? Contact our Director Alison Fram to join our newsletter

afram@nativityburke.org
(703) 577-5329



BIBLE STUDIES AT NATIVITY PARISH (1/23)



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

Tuesday evening Young Adult Bible Studies: 6 weeks in small groups. At different times throughout the year, we offer 6-week long Bible studies where we'll encounter Jesus through the Gospels. We read three chapters of Scripture each week and come together to talk about it. You can

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

Wednesday morning and evening. Walking With Purpose: Meeting in person. Walking with Purpose is a study program that aims to help bring women closer to Christ through Scripture. **Meets** weekly in person on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Register at <https://nativityburke.org/wwp/> OR **Contact Erin Barrett** wwpnativity@gmail.com

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

Friday morning Women's Bible Study. Meetings are Friday Mornings from 9:30-11:30 AM. We are currently studying Hebrews through February 10th. Our last two studies will be on Christ's Passion (Feb 24-Mar 31) and the Sermon on the Mount (Apr 14-May 5). We are operating with a hybrid format of in-person and Zoom meetings. Register for the next session at <https://nativityburke.org/womens-bible-study-registration/> **Contact Camille Pryor** at wbs@nativityburke.org

Viernes por la noche Estudio Bíblico: El estudio bíblico en español "Little Rock" es un programa que ayudara a aumentar tu fe. Este ministerio está en nuestra parroquia de Natividad desde 2014, alentando a los fieles a tener una mejor visión de la Iglesia Católica y crear en ellos un interés mas profundo en las sagradas Escrituras. **Horario:** Viernes de 7:00-9:00 pm. Desde Septiembre 24, 2021 a Junio 3, 2022. Lugar: Salón Fr. Ready. Este ciclo estaremos estudiando: El evangelio según San Juan y las Cartas. **Contactarse Elba Pfeifer** elbitabonita@aol.com

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

Saturday morning Men's Prayer and Reflection Group: Meeting virtually/in person. Men of all ages – Join us in reading and reflecting on Sunday scriptures and discussing how it relates to our lives and helps us become better Catholic husbands, dads, family members and friends. We **meet** Saturdays from 8:00 – 9:00 am virtually and in-person in the Training/Cry Room at the back of church. Drop-ins are always welcome! **Contact Rick Loffredo** rickloffredo@outlook.com.

45th ANNUAL GAELIC MASS IN HONOR OF ST. PATRICK

Sean O'Riada Mass

**ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS (AOH)
COL. JOHN FITZGERALD DIVISION, ARLINGTON, VA**



MONDAY, MARCH 13 @ 7:00PM

St. James Catholic Church

905 Park Ave., Falls Church, VA 22046

Reception and refreshments to follow in Heller Hall

For more information, contact Alex Wilson

(703) 969-7703 or ajwilzn@gmail.com

More information about the AOH @ <http://www.aohvirginia.org>



QR Code to donate to the AOH Gaelic Mass fund via Fundly

Finding Jesus as

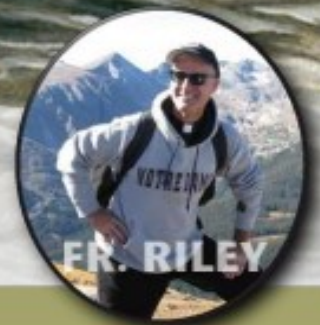
MEN after Christ's own Heart

SILENT RETREAT
MARCH 17-19
FRIDAY - SUNDAY
2023



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

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



FR. RILEY

Contact Fr. Riley: Retreat@SacredHeartWinchester.org

GATHER AT SAN DAMIANO RETREAT CENTER IN WHITE POST, VA



Lunch N' Life

Thursday, March 16, 2023 12 noon — 2 PM

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

5114 Twinbrook Rd., Fairfax. VA 22032



Speaker – Jim Radigan, US Navy Retired

**“My experiences as the commanding officer –
U.S. Navy Antarctica Squadron.”**

As a special welcome back to Lunch N' Life, there is
no cost for this lunch and entertainment.

Advance reservations are required, and will be limited to 100 persons

Please contact Bea Stephenson for reservations at 703-273-5730

Deadline for reservations – March 9, 2023

*Contact SCFB a week prior to event date if you require transportation to the luncheon, and we
will try to find a ride for you. SCFB's office phone number is 703-323-4788.*

**If Fairfax County public schools are closed or have a delayed opening on March 16, 2023 due to
inclement weather, this event will be cancelled.**

The next Lunch N' Life is on May 18th and will feature the barbershop quartet Just Four Grins.
At Jubilee Christian Center. Don't miss it!! More details to follow.

discover you



Teacher Job Fair

Saturday, March 18

9-11 AM

Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School

1700 Dominican Drive
Potomac Shores, 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/85010793968?
pwd=WFZSZk40clJGTzdzVWNIWmoxUy8vQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85010793968?pwd=WFZSZk40clJGTzdzVWNIWmoxUy8vQT09)

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.

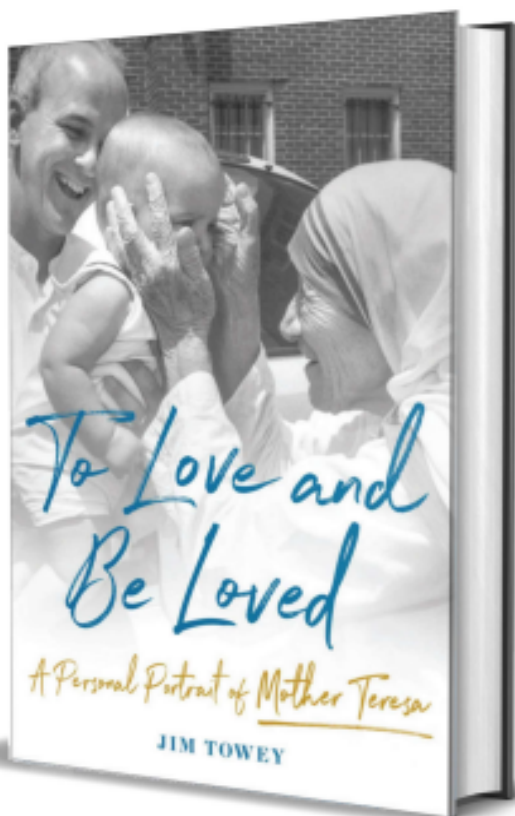
Lessons from Mother Teresa

IN AGING AND LIFE IN THE LATER YEARS

featuring author **JIM TOWEY**

Tuesday, March 7, 2023 • 7:00 p.m.

**St. Timothy Catholic Church – in our New Parish Hall
13807 Poplar Tree Road • Chantilly, VA 20151**



Jim Towey, a trusted advisor and devoted friend of Mother Teresa, gives an extraordinary firsthand account of the woman who became a saint. A former senior White House advisor, head of Florida's social

services agency, and founder of the nonprofit Aging with Dignity – Jim shines light on the practical lessons from Mother Teresa and how following her example in small ways makes our life better and more beautiful, in all seasons of life, but especially our later years.

“People who wonder how Mother Teresa changed so many lives and gave so many people purpose should read *To Love and Be Loved*. Way to go, Jim. You did it right.”

— Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, Archbishop of New York

“The loveliest book I’ve read in recent months, rich in reflection on contemporary sanctity and including one of the Five Funniest Catholic Stories Ever.” — George Weigel, author of the *New York Times* bestselling biography on Pope John Paul II

Books will be available for the author to inscribe upon request.

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

7th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday February 19

Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18

Ps 103:1-4,8,10,
12-13 (8a)

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Matthew 5:38-48

Monday February 20

Sirach 1:1-10

Ps 93:1ab,1cd-2,5

Mark 9:14-29

Tuesday February 21

Sirach 2:1-11

Ps 37:3-4,18-19,27-28,
39-40

Mark 9:30-37

Wednesday February 22

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:12-18

Ps 51:3-6ab,12-14,17

2 Corinthians 5:20 — 6:2

Matthew 6:1-6,16-18

Thursday February 23

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Ps 1:1-4,6

Luke 9:22-25

Friday February 24

Isaiah 58:1-9a

Ps 51:3-6ab,18-19

Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday February 25

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Ps 86:1-6

Luke 5:27-32

If someone steals from you or demands something from you unjustly, you can't stop his greed but you can stop him from sinning against you: Let it go, give it to him. And as an act of generous love, give him more! I know it doesn't feel right, but this is what Jesus says is right. Divinely right.

If someone asks you to do a chore for her because she's lazy, prevent it from becoming a sin of cruelty; gladly do what she asks and volunteer to do more.

Mercy is the key to understanding this Sunday's Gospel reading. Think of love as the front door to people's hearts. When they close it, mercy is the love that sneaks in through the back door.

In ancient times, if someone gouged another person in the eye, the victim could gather his clan and punish him by wiping out his aggressor's clan. So God gave his people a law that brought them closer to love: If someone hurts your eye, you may do nothing more than the same to him. It was still unloving, but at least it was fair.

When Jesus came onto the scene, he raised the standards: If someone hurts you, don't play fair; give that person love.

When people sin against us, they don't understand that they're closing their hearts to God and his love. But if we give them love, we give them God through a back door.

This does not mean we are to remain in harm's way. But if we continue to give them love – even if only from afar – we bring God and his healing into the situation.

If someone steals from you or



This plan of Jesus demonstrates, through us, that God's love is superior to everything else. It proves that love conquers evil.

This is what it means to be perfect. Perfection in the Bible means the fullness of love – complete, unlimited, merciful love.

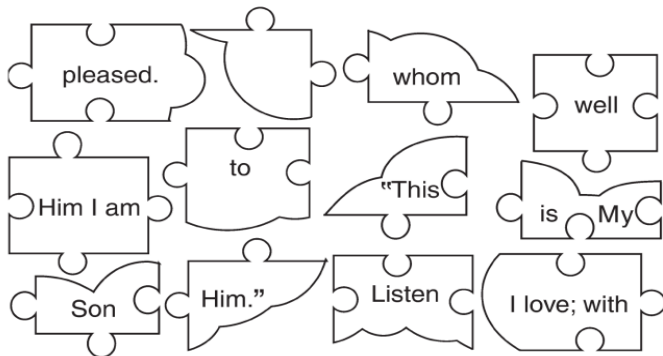
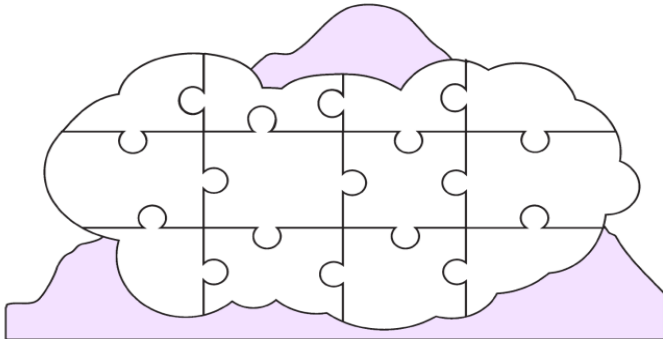
Reflect & Discuss:

- † Think of a time when God showed you mercy even though you didn't deserve his love. What did it feel like when he gave you his love anyway? How did it change you?
- † Who is currently sinning against you? What good deeds can you do simply and easily even before he or she asks for forgiveness?
- † Describe a time when you did a good deed to someone who caused you difficulties. What kind of impact did your efforts make? If you're not aware of good results yet, how did it help *you* experience God's love?
- † How can stopping an abuse be done as an act of love?



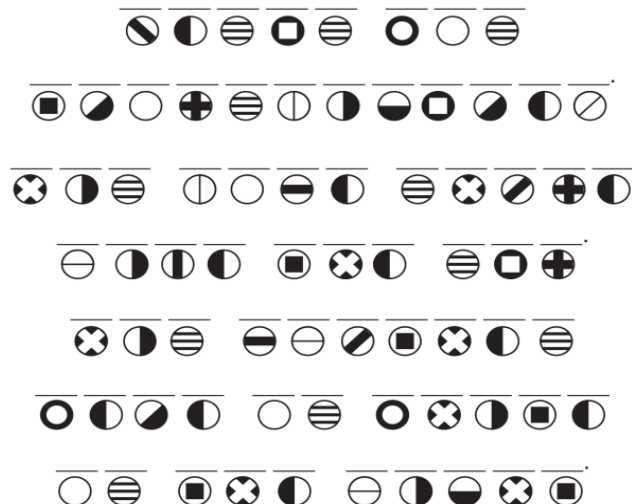
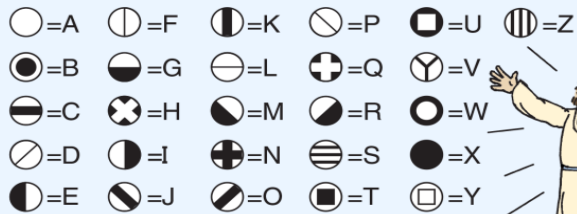
Then a bright cloud enveloped them. A voice came from the cloud. What did the voice say?

Fit the pieces in the puzzle.



What did the three disciples witness?

Use the code to fill in the letters.



Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

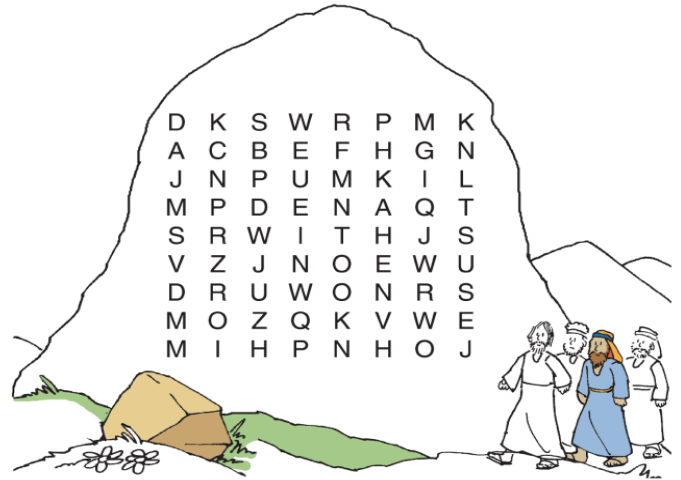
February 19, 2023 • Matthew 17:1-9

The Transfiguration

Find the words in the sentence below in the puzzle.

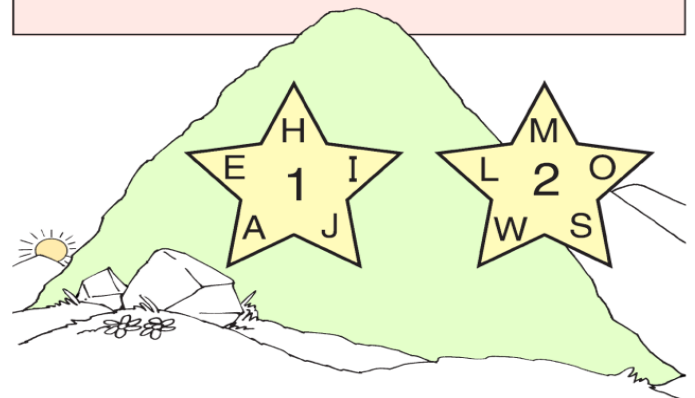
Circle them → ← ↓ ↑ ↗ ↘ ↙ ↚

Jesus took Peter, James and John up a mountain with Him.



Suddenly two more people appeared on the mountain! Who were they?

Use the code to find the answer.



and



Nativity Catholic Church



Entre en la Cuaresma

Participe en cualquiera de los siguientes eventos y oportunidades para ayudar a que su Cuaresma sea fructífera

Pescado Frito de Cuaresma | feb 24, marzo 31 | 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Confesiones | los miércoles en marzo | 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Vía Crucis | viernes | 7:00pm ingles | 8:00pm español

Cenas de Sopa de Cuaresma | marzo 1, 8, 15, 22 | 5:30pm - 7:00pm

Noche de Oración con Mark Forrest | marzo 29 | 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Servicio de Penitencia | marzo 30 | 6:30pm

Retiros de Cuaresma | feb 25, marzo 4, 11, 18, 25, abril 1

El Miércoles de Ceniza y el Viernes Santo son días obligatorios de ayuno y abstinencia para los católicos. Además, los viernes durante la Cuaresma son días obligatorios de abstinencia.

Para más información sobre cada una de estas oportunidades, visite nuestra página: www.nativityburke.org

CUARESMA

TIEMPO DE TRANSFORMACION

RETIROS DE CUARESMA

TRANSFORMADO POR ARREPENTIMIENTO
TRANSFORMADO POR ENTREGARSE A DIOS
TRANSFORMADO POR AMOR

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

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

**Corazón simple
Cristiano de hoy**
**Sólo aceptar, orar, adorar al Señor, y disfrutar
de los pequeños detalles que El nos permite
ver, de Su maravilloso Reino.**



Por: www.reinadelcielo.org | Fuente: reina del cielo

Siempre llamó mi atención aquella gente con un corazón sencillo, aquellos que hacen de lo complejo, de lo sofisticado, algo cotidiano, entendible por todos. Gente que quizás habla de cosas importantes, pero tiene en su forma de expresarse una capacidad de llegar al fondo de su mensaje de inmediato. Sea cual fuere el tema del que esas personas hablan, llegan al corazón, el alma se siente atraída. Gente muy sencilla, que quizás sólo nos sirve o ayuda en determinado punto de nuestras vidas. Rostros sonrientes, dispuestos a ayudarnos, adaptarse y comprender.

¡Dan ganas de sentarse a hablar con esa gente, a saber de su vida! Ellos no buscan complejidades, no desconfían más de la cuenta, hablan de modo abierto y claro, tienden a creer y a confiar, ven en la gente lo bueno. La simpleza de corazón se opone a esa otra postura, la de buscar siempre los motivos para no creer, la de dudar de todo, la de complicar las cosas, la de plantear siempre obstáculos y objeciones, la de esperar que finalmente algo nos de la excusa para descalificar.

Esta actitud frente a la vida, la de hacer lo complejo algo sencillo, la de creer, confiar, de poner una sonrisa y un deseo de hacerse entender y querer por el prójimo, es una parte importante del amor. Porque el amor es simple y Dios es simple, El hace las cosas de Su Reino sencillas para nosotros. Pero también pone un velo entre Sus misterios y nuestro entendimiento. Es por este motivo que es tan importante no querer ver o saber más allá de lo que Dios quiera que veamos. ¡Sólo creer en El!

Esta actitud, la de creer, proviene de un corazón sencillo. Creer, con un alma abierta a las cosas del Reino, más allá de que la mente, nuestro intelecto, no alcance a comprender lo que percibe. Es muy difícil tener fe en Dios si queremos procesar todo a través de nuestra razón. La soberbia, origen de todo pecado porque proviene de quien quiso ser como Dios en los inicios de los tiempos, nos arrastra a querer ver donde no debemos, a querer comprender donde no podemos, y finalmente a creer sólo si nuestra razón comprende. ¡Sólo Dios puede comprender Sus cosas!

Cuando veo tanta gente sencilla en los lugares donde se expresa la fe en Jesús y en María, Santos y Angeles, en el Reino de la Santísima Trinidad en pleno, no puedo dejar de admirarme de la sencillez de esos corazones que creen, no preguntan, no se hacen planteos más allá de la fe o las enseñanzas que Jesús nos dejó a través de Su Palabra. ¡Benditos esos corazones plenos de sencillez y fe, bienaventurados los sencillos y humildes de Corazón!

Y que difícil es la prueba cuando Dios da la gracia de tener una mente desarrollada, una educación elevada. El propio don que Dios da se puede transformar en el motor de nuestra soberbia: vaya, si somos gente inteligente, ¿cómo podemos creer en estos tiempos en estas cosas, inexplicables para la ciencia del hombre?. Cuanta soberbia se esconde en esta pregunta, pero cuan a menudo se la escucha, o se la piensa. El mundo moderno ha desarrollado tal soberbia, que ha dejado poco espacio para las cosas del Señor, que son por supuesto inexplicables, porque pertenecen a un nivel de pensamiento, el Pensamiento Divino, al que el hombre jamás podrá llegar.

Es por este motivo que da gran alegría ver gente con dones intelectuales y buena educación, que también tiene un corazón sencillo, y cree en las cosas de Dios sin preguntarse. Esos hermanos han pasado una prueba importante, han llegado a rozar la verdadera sabiduría, la de hacerse pequeños y aceptar la Omnipotencia Divina sin preguntar ni por qué, ni cómo, ni cuando, ni donde. Sólo aceptar, orar, adorar al Señor, y disfrutar de los pequeños detalles

**Con los ojos frescos de un niño
Cristiano de hoy**
**Quizá haga falta, como dijo Jesús, hacernos
otra vez como los niños...**



Por: P. Fernando Pascual | Fuente: Catholic.net

Los niños saben descubrir cosas que los mayores quizá ya no vemos. La abeja que gira y gira para conseguir un poco más de miel entre las margaritas y los tréboles de un jardín. El chapulín que se limpia las patas de atrás antes de volver a iniciar su "concierto". El pichón que canta, monótonamente, en lo alto de un poste de luz. El remolino de polvo y basura que avanza hacia un poblado y que seguramente dejará sucia toda la ropa que se encontraba tendida después de un día de limpieza general...

¿Por qué son curiosos los niños? Quizá tendríamos que hacer otra pregunta: ¿por qué a veces dejamos de ser curiosos los mayores? Los años de escuela, la preparación profesional, el matrimonio, el trabajo, ¿nos copan tanto que ya no tenemos tiempo para mirar las estrellas, para escuchar a los grillos, para observar los colores de las alas de una mariposa, para seguir con la mirada los vuelos caprichosos de una golondrina?

Una hormiga arrastra una pesada rama. Un niño observa. El viento juega con la rama. La hormiga, una y otra vez, "vuela" lejos del hormiguero, su meta soñada, mientras el niño se entusiasma ante la energía y la testarudez de un insecto tan pequeño y laborioso.

El sol se esconde, tras las montañas, todas las tardes. El viento acaricia las espigas. Las moscas buscan con inquietud un poco más de comida. Un corderillo de pocos días llama con sus balidos a su madre, que come despreocupada unos metros más adelante... Una serpiente toma el sol junto al camino, y una golondrina planea, gira y gira, mientras los zancudos llenan poco a poco su sistema digestivo.

Millones de realidades brillan a nuestro alrededor. Son como llamadas, diminutas o grandes, que nos quieren elevar a mundos desconocidos. No hemos nacido para apretar tuercas, ni para encimar ladrillos, ni para archivar papeles o deshacer y rehacer programas de computadoras. Un soplo misterioso, eterno, nos lleva y nos impulsa hacia cosas grandes, y nos invita a descubrir el mundo de un modo nuevo.

Si son hermosas las amapolas, las luciérnagas, los cangrejos y los pe-tirrojos, tienen una luz especial los ojos de los que viven a nuestro lado. El niño que nos mira a través del cristal del coche para pedirnos un poco de dinero. La señora que compra, rodeada de cuatro hijos pequeños que giran continuamente, un poco de comida para la semana. El anciano que se sienta fuera de su casa todas las tardes para tomar los rayos del sol que agoniza. El policía que mantiene un poco de orden en la esquina cerca de mi casa. Y el médico que nunca tiene prisa, pues sabe que cuando llegue a su destino el paciente ya estará empezando a mejorar o ya no habrá nada que hacer...

El cariño del esposo o de la esposa, el beso de los hijos antes de dormirse, la emoción de la carta que nos llega del ausente, la alegría ante las notas de quien estudia una carrera difícil. Miles de detalles escriben nuestras vidas, y el cariño de los demás nos importa mucho más que todos los arcoiris que puedan dar un tinte sugestivo a las tardes tropicales.

Detrás de todo, con un respeto y un silencio que nos aturden, Dios. En medio de las espigas, entre las plumas de los halcones, en lo misterioso del mar y en lo grande del cielo, en la frente que suda en medio de los campos o en una calle de una ciudad enloquecida: una presencia enorme y sencilla nos conforta y nos permite descubrir que la vida es hermosa, que vale la pena sufrir, que el amor es lo más grande.

Un niño mira por la ventana. Las gotas de lluvia rompen contra la terraza y forman cientos de burbujas que nacen y que mueren, mientras las calles se transforman en arroyos y la gente corre veloz entre los portales. Detrás, delante, arriba y abajo, se esconde el Amor que nos sostiene a todos. No todos lo descubren. Quizá haga falta, como dijo Jesús, el Nazareno, hacernos otra vez como los niños...

Preguntas o comentarios al autor

¡UN IMPOSIBLE SIN DIOS!

VII Domingo (Ciclo A)
Javier Leoz



No resulta fácil, por propia voluntad, el amor a los enemigos por parte del ser humano. ¿Responder al odio con amor? ¿A la violencia con la mansedumbre? ¿A la afrenta con la humildad?

¿Cómo llegar a ese grado de exquisitez cristiana? ¿Cómo regalar bien ante el mal? Ni más ni menos que, colocando en el centro de nuestra existencia, a Dios mismo. El es la fuente de la bondad y, cuando Dios configura totalmente el vivir cotidiano de una persona, esa misma persona, es capaz de llegar al grado de perfección o a esa utopía que nos puede parecer el evangelio de este día.

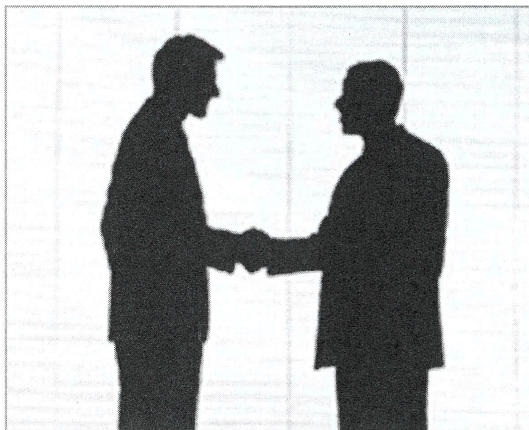
1. La característica esencial de Dios es la bondad misma, el amor mismo. Y, Dios, no puede hacer otra cosa que eso: amar. Podrán muchos de sus hijos olvidarle, ultrajar su nombre y dudar de su existencia. Dios, por el contrario, responderá una y otra vez con lo que tiene y ofrece espontáneamente: amor

Dios siempre está dispuesto a perdonar. Esa es la diferencia entre EL y nosotros; por inercia y sin esfuerzo alguno, perdona, olvida y entrega amor. Nosotros, desde nuestra humanidad, dosificamos el perdón, nos cuesta olvidar y el amor lo damos también con cuentagotas. Por ello mismo, el final del evangelio de este evangelio, nos retrata: vivir con Dios significa aspirar a su perfección; ver las cosas como Dios mismo las ve y reaccionar, incluso en situaciones ilógicas y contradictorias, desde el testimonio de la fe. ¿Imposible? No con Dios;

2. Se suele decir que, las imitaciones, son siempre malas. Pero, la vida de un cristiano, debe ser un imitar las actitudes, pensamientos, obras y deseos de Cristo. Por lo tanto, abrirnos sin desmayo y sin miedo, mirar hacia el cielo cuando se nos hace sufrir en la tierra, meditar la gran lección que Jesús nos da en la cruz (su amor universal) pueden ser perfectamente unos claros síntomas de que queremos vivir según El y que, entre otras cosas, deseamos ansiar (llevándola a la práctica) la perfección cristiana: en el encuentro con numerosos prójimos, manifestarles (y hasta asombrarles e impresionarles) por la viveza y sinceridad de nuestro amor.

3. Cinco enemigos se levantan en contra de esta aventura del amor a los enemigos y del deseo de agradar a Dios siendo, allá donde estamos, imagen de su amor: el egocentrismo (mirarnos a nosotros mismos); el egoísmo (querernos demasiado); individualismo (vivir como si todo dependiese de nosotros); el racionalismo (pensar en lo que perdemos o ganamos, cuando prima el pensamiento antes que la fe o la religión) y la ausencia de Dios (cuando en el centro instalamos exclusivamente nuestro propio bienestar y dejamos a un lado al Señor). Frente a estos enemigos tendremos muchas armas para hacerles frente: la oración, la solidaridad, la fe, la comunidad y las promesas de Jesús que, por la fuerza del Espíritu, nos asiste hasta el día en el que vuelva definitivamente. ¿Cómo nos encontrará? ¿Luchando contra los enemigos de la vida cristiana o sometidos a ellos? ¿Amando a “los nuestros” o brindando nuestra amistad a los que piensan de distinta manera a nosotros? ¿Con las puertas abiertas a la fraternidad o con los balcones cerrados a lo que ya tenemos conquistado?

Ojala que, el Señor, nos ayude a hacer de nuestra vida una ofrenda y un amor que no sea excluyente. Lo tenemos difícil pero, con El en medio, puede ser posible.



¿CÓMO ME PIDES TANTO, SEÑOR?

¿Sonreír al que deteriora e invade mi vida,
perdonar a quien me afrenta
ayudar a quien me arruina
y asistir a quien me olvidó un mal día?

¿CÓMO ME PIDES TANTO, SEÑOR?

¿Amar al que tal vez nunca me amó,
abrazar al que, ayer, me rechazó,
llorar con el que, tal vez,
nunca yo encontré consuelo en la aflicción?
¿Cómo, Señor! ¡Dime cómo!

Cuando ya es difícil amar al que nos ama
Caminar con el que queremos
entregarnos al que conocemos
o alegrarnos con el que nos aplaude
¿Cómo, Señor! ¡Dinos cómo hacerlo!

Cuando nos cuesta rezar por los nuestros
o prestar nuestra mejilla
a quien ya nos da un beso
Cuando es duro el ser felices
con aquellos que con nosotros conviven

¿CÓMO NOS PIDES TANTO, SEÑOR?

Ayúdanos a estar en comunión permanente con

KL Keithley Law, PLLC
Real Estate, Family & Business Law



9990 Fairfax Boulevard - Suite 340 - Fairfax, VA 22030
703-865-7710
Nativity Parishioner
Mention this ad for a reduced consultation rate.
www.keithleylaw.com

myParish
The App for Catholic Life Every Day

www.myParishApp.com

Available on the App Store | Available on Google Play

I ♥ SPARTANS FAMILY RESTAURANT

8542 BURKE RD. BURKE, VA 22015
www.ILoveSpartans.com (703) 503-5800

A moment of **serenity**

FITNESS FOR EVERYONE!

WORKHORSE ATHLETICS

1 FREE WEEK



Life-changing hearing care starts here.

HearingLife

703.436.2223 • hearinglife.com
8986 Lorton Station Blvd., Suite 201, Lorton, VA
Dr. Steven Kulsar, Au.D., Ph.D., CCC-A, Audiologist
Lic. #2201001770, Dispensing Lic #2101002553;
Margaret Peter, Hearing Instrument Specialist
Lic. #2101002436

SENIOR AND MILITARY DISCOUNTS!

FINANCING AVAILABLE

ROOFING
DECKS • SIDING
GUTTERS

FREE wind & hail damage inspections for roofs
Insurance Claims Specialists

MidAtlantic
703-492-HOME or 571-408-4349
www.MACContracting.com

ACCOUNTING & TAX SOLUTIONS, INC

- Tax Preparation/Planning
- Individuals • Corporations • Partnerships • Estates • Trusts
- Accounting/Bookkeeping
- Payroll Services/Retirement Plans

Mary Elizabeth Nuti, EA - Parishioner

703-451-1040 • 9243 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke

IHOP RESTAURANT

Stop by before or after Mass.
Come Hungry, Leave Happy
We are always open!

WE ARE HIRING!
Servers - Hostess
any shift - full and part time

Open 24 Hours
Great taste never sleeps

Your local Burke IHOP proudly supports Nativity Church.
We are open 24 hours a day 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
Free Wi-Fi, Kids Eat free on Tuesday nights, and Wednesday is Senior Night. See what's new at IHOP.

Make it an **IHop** day.

BOGACKI & BOGACKI DDS, PC
Family and Cosmetic Dentistry
Friendly and Courteous Staff

8344 Traford Lane
Springfield, VA 22152
(703) 451-2867
www.BogackiDental.com

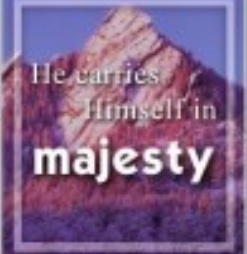


Orthodontist
Dr. Rodney Klima
Dr. Kevin Toms

Braces & Invisalign
Children & Adults

5204-B Lyngate Ct.
Burke, VA 22015
703-425-5125
www.klimaoortho.com

He carries Himself in majesty



HEATHERWOOD
INDEPENDENT AND ASSISTED LIVING

Providing a lifestyle our residents have earned and deserve since 1991

Call 703-425-1698 for a tour
www.rui.net/heatherwood

B.J. Pool & Spa
A Full Service Pool and Spa Company

Robert M. Seh
President
6413 Little Ox Rd.
Fairfax Station, VA

703.323.1333
703.239.0138
bob@bjpoolandspa.com
www.bjpoolandspa.com



Caffi SERVICES, INC

PLUMBING HEATING HVAC REMODELING

130 POWHATAN STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22304-1042
(703) 836-6775
www.caffiservices.com
service@caffiservices.com

Serving the DC Metropolitan Area since 1967

Nature is **inspiration**



Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.

Simply go to www.DM.CHURCH/3134 ...or scan



DISCOVERMASS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

For information on advertising, please call or email Mike Jurosky at 717-648-5996 or mjurosky@diocesan.com

DIOCESAN
Catholic Life Every Day



MURPHY LAW GROUP, PLLC
Wills, Trusts, Estates, & More
9309-B Old Keene Mill Road, Burke, VA
703-455-7177
www.MurphyLawVA.com

MowCow
LAWN & LANDSCAPE
SIGN UP INSTANTLY ONLINE!
703-543-7600
MowCow.com/Leaf

James F. McIntyre
Certified Public Accountant
Parishioner
Jim@JFMcIntyreCPA.com
www.jfmcintyrecpa.com
(703) 391-1099

Peter K. Cocolis Jr., DMD
Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
• Quality Care • Latest Techniques
• Convenient Appointments
Call 703-912-3800
www.smiles4va.com
PARL/HIONERS
5803 Rolling Road, Suite 211
Next to Interstate Van Lines

TD Barber Shop
Thuan Do • Parishioner
9530 Old Keene Mill Road
Burke, VA 22015
(corner of Old Keene Mill & Lee Chapel)
(703) 913-4277
www.TDBarber.com
HOURS: Mon-Fri (9am - 7pm)
Sat (8am-3pm) • Sun (10am-4pm)

AVA AIR
HVAC & HEATING
(703) 629-6020
24 HOUR 24/7 Emergency
Service 703-629-6020
Paul Melendez
www.avaairhvac.com

Brennan's TREE SERVICE
703-218-8003
www.brennanstreeservice.com
10% off any tree work for parishioners
• Tree Removal • Spikess Pruning • Stump Grinding
• Free Unsplit Wood • Lot Clearing • Tree Planting • Free Chips

MARY KAY
Joanne Fabish, Parishioner
Independent Beauty Consultant
703-455-8958
www.marykay.com/jfabish

Merino's Maids LLC
House Cleaning
Maid service
The Best Cleaning Choice!
• Excellent References • 25 Continuous years of Experience
• Weekly, Bi Weekly, Monthly
• Moving In-OUT Cleaning Specialist • Low Prices in Town
Call For A Free Estimate
(703) 867-2145 • Sandrainerino2145@gmail.com

catholicmatch
Pennsylvania
CatholicMatch.com/goPA

GENERAL, IMPLANT & COSMETIC DENTISTRY
Robert D. Argentieri, DDS, FAGD
Cristian Alcantara, DDS
Providing Exceptional Dental Care for 40 years
703-569-6644
www.springfielddental.com
6201 Old Keene Mill Court,
Springfield, VA 22152

Village Veterinary Clinic
John P. Lonam, D.V.M.
Rachelle M. Kopp, D.V.M.
Jeonghwa Kim, D.V.M.
(703) 978-8655
9544 Burke Rd., Burke, VA
www.VillageVetofBurke.com

PJI LAW
Wills, Trusts, & Probate
for Catholic Families
(703) 865-6100
Fairfax, VA
www.pjilaw.com | welcome@pjilaw.com

I am truly blessed to have helped many of our parishioners
Diane A. Sundt, ABR, GRI, SRES
diane.sundt@LNF.com
703-615-4626
Over 20 Years Experience
Parishioner
Military Relocation
Specialist
Licensed in Virginia
6045 Burke Centre Pkwy
Burke, VA 22015

Jefferson Funeral Chapel
www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com • Email: info@jeffersonfuneralchapel.com
Family Owned
5755 Castlewellan Drive, Alexandria, VA 22315
Just off S. VanDorn St (Kingstowne) 703-971-7400

FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY
DR. SUSANA RAYGADA, DMD, Harvard University
DR. KATRINA HERNANDEZ-LEVERIZA, DMD, Univ. of Pennsylvania
Rated Top Dentist by Virginia Living Mag. and Checkbook
5211 Lyngate Ct, Burke, VA • 703-323-1400 • dentisburkeva.com

pdc
pediatric dental care
www.mypdcdentists.com
Dr. John Han (Parishioner)
Fairfax Office: 703.383.3434
9901 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax, VA 22030
Springfield Office: 703.992.7100
6120 Brandon Ave. Suite 114, Springfield, VA 22150

KELLIHER FAMILY DENTISTS
Jeremiah J. Kelliher, D.D.S.
Sean P. Kelliher, D.D.S.
Karen Kelliher Wilson, R.D.H.
Kathleen Kelliher Ketch, R.D.H.
(703) 451-5030
6120 Brandon Ave.
Suite 211, Springfield

Virginia Eyecare Center
VISION SOURCE
(703) 569-3131
Dr. Courtney Shay
Dr. Tim LaFreniere
Dr. Kathryn Huebner
Dr. Mallory Cranmer
Dr. Bryan Procopio
9314-A Old Keene Mill Rd
www.virginiaeyecare.com

FAIRFAX STATION CHIROPRACTIC & MASSAGE
fairfaxstationchiropractic.com
Christopher Virusky, D.C.
703-493-8445

ST JOSEPH'S ROOFING
Roofing | Siding | Gutters | Windows/Doors
Insurance Claims | Storm Damage | Repairs
(703) 716-ROOF (7663) | www.sjroof.com

Cardinal PLAZA SHELL
Expert Maintenance & Repairs
703-451-6232
www.CardinalPlazaShell.com
Kitchens • Baths • Basements
Mike Jones - 703.451.0800
www.alwhome.com
ALW HOME IMPROVEMENTS
Class A Contractor with Over 30 Years Experience

Certified Public Accountants
DONOVAN & WAGNER, P.C.
Accounting Services & Business Advisory
Income Taxes | Eldercare Bookkeeping
www.DaWcpa
Burke Professional Center • 5210-B Lyngate Court
703-426-5560

Forgiveness is peace

Discover the Catholic Difference
Rely on the Knights of Columbus to help protect your family's future.
A name you know and trust.
An organization you can believe in.
Contact me today to learn more about our products.
Carlos Perez, Jr., CFP®
4041 Agent
866-866-1002
carlos.perez@kofc.org

Carpe Diem Weichert REALTY
— It's Your Move —
JimDay@Weichert.com
MILITARY Relocation Specialist
SENIORS Real Estate Specialist
703.307.5467

State Farm
Providing Insurance and Financial Services
Auto - Life - Home - Health - Business Insurance - Bank
6560 Backlick Road • Suite #207 • Springfield, VA 22150
Agent
Arceli Magpayo Brown
703-269-0673
arceli@arcelibrown.com • www.arcelibrown.com
Parishioner Over 10 Years & Over 30 Years Experience
Se Habla Español
Licensed in VA - DC - MD