



6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, Virginia 22015 nativityburke.org

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

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

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

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454-2415 or mmturner@ccda.net



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
R.E. OFFICE: (703) 455-0372
R.E. OFFICE FAX: (703) 455-6832

SUNDAY MASSES: 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass

7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass in Spanish 7:00 a.m./9:00 a.m./11:00 a.m./ 1:00 p.m./5:30 p.m. Monthly Sensory Mass on the second Sunday of every month at the 1:00 pm Mass

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

A Message from our Pastor Msgr. Bob Cilinski



"Do Unto Others As You Would Have Them Do To You"

My dear parishioners,

Jesus teaches us radical love. Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. What Jesus teaches us is a radical love.

As children of God we now model our way of living after Jesus who loved to the end. Human justice is harsh and mean spirited. God's always includes mercy.

Finally, the way we treat others will be the standard for the way we are treated by God. We must be merciful as God is merciful. Tough challenge for sure and a tough gospel which calls us to a higher standard. We can attain this not by ourselves, but through the power of the risen Lord. It's hard but not impossible. God's grace is there to helps us.

Love and blessings,

Boh Cillinghi

Msgr. Bob Cilinski Pastor

"But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend without expecting anything back..." - LUKE 6:35

Easier said than done, right? But, if we are to imitate Christ, most of us need to practice mercy and compassion more frequently. Start with the little daily annoyances that we experience, the unkind word or hateful glance we receive. Instead of plotting revenge on that person, try saying a quick prayer for that person. Praying for our enemies doesn't change them, it changes us. Mercy and compassion will keep us on the path to holiness.

2025 BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL (BLA) BEGINS!



The 2025 BLA Commitment Sunday is next weekend! Once a year we are asked to make a pledge to sustain the good works funded by the BLA which offer vital services and assistance to those in need across our communities. We are asking every family to participate to help our parish make our goal. By participating in the BLA, we renew our commitment to the Lord with a response to

You make a gift at: www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA

His call to serve our brothers and sisters.

Nativity Catholic Church

Ash Wednesday March 5, 2025 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 12:00 noon

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.

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

In the recent St. Lucy Food Drive, you donated nearly 10,500 lbs of food and gave more than \$3,500, despite the bad weather that day. These donations will go a very long way in replenishing the food warehouse and will make a big difference in the lives of many families in the Diocese!

The next St. Lucy Food Drive will take place in June 2025.

Please look for us then and consider donating.

And again, Thank You!

Nativity Catholic Church

Worship Watch Training

Msgr. Bob invites all **Ushers & Sacristans and interested Parishioners** to attend a training session that will cover the foundation for establishing a security team, reporting crimes, honing observation skills, and becoming a reliable witness

Date: Monday, February 24 | 6:30 pm Where: Nativity School Cafeteria Sponsors: Nativity Ecumenical Ministry & the Fairfax County Police Department

RSVP Today! nativityburke.org/worship-watch







The right to bear arms is written in the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Learn how the Catholic Church advocates for reasonable policies to protect life and promote peace in our society.



Michael O'Rourke, J.D., supports the U.S. bishops in engaging on a wide range of issues, including gun violence.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED



SCAN OR GO TO: '
WEBSITE ADDRESS
ARLINGTONDIOCESE.ORG/
EVENT/PEACECONFERENCE/

MARCH 8, 2025

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY BURKE, VA

5 p.m. Mass with Bishop Burbidge

6:15 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. Keynote Address:

Michael B. O'Rourke,

Director, Domestic Justice and Human Development, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

7:45 p.m. Q&A

8:30 p.m. Closing Remarks and Blessing



Nativity Theatre Ministry is looking for volunteers to help bring our 2025 summer musical to life! Whether you're experienced or just starting out, there's a role for you: set construction & painting, lighting & sound, wardrobe & makeup, stage management, props & special effects, backstage crew, music & vocal direction, choreography.

For more information, please reach out to Barbra Schwartz at theater@nativityburke.org.

Audition dates for the show will be announced in April.

Let's create something unforgettable together!

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

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

Join the Knights of Columbus for a traditional celebration of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, at our annual Saint Patrick's Day Dinner Dance

The event will be held in the Fr. Martin Center on Saturday, March 15th, 2025 - starting at 6:30 PM

It's always a fun evening filled with dining, dancing, and entertainment. Enjoy the sounds of a bagpiper playing traditional Irish tunes, and music for listening and dancing provided by a DJ. You can bring your friends and reserve a table for 6 or 8 or opt for designated seating to meet fellow parishioners.

The highlight of the evening is the best corned beef dinner in town, available for \$40 per adult ticket. Children ages 12 and under are just \$15. This event tends to sell out quickly, so be sure to purchase your tickets early! Tickets are available at the table in the narthex or online at

https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/kc-council-7992/st-patrick-s-day-2025 In God We Live and Move and Have our Being Women's 159th Arlington Cursillo Retreat is scheduled for March 6 - 9, 2025 at Missionhurst Retreat Center, Arlington VA

The Cursillo Weekend is a retreat, but also so much more. It is an opportunity to examine and celebrate yourself, deepen your relationship with Christ, and continue – or begin – your faith journey with the love and support of the Christian community. You will: Grow spiritually - Make new friends - Experience Christ's unlimited love. If you are interested and would like to learn more, feel free to contact lauralaverdiere@msn.com. For more information, or to register to attend the retreat, contact PreCursillo@arlingtoncursillo.org or visit the website: https://www.arlingtoncursillo.org/.

Nativity's Italian Heritage and Cultural Society presents

CHOCOLATE & CANDY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27 AT 7:00PM NATIVITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

THE NATIVITY ITALIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURAL SOCIETY WELCOMES ALL PARISHIONERS TO OUR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 27. OUR OWN DIANE WELLAND, WILL TALK ABOUT CELEBRATING CHOCOLATE & CANDY IN ITALY AND THE US. SHE IS CURRENTLY THE SENIOR DIRECTOR OF SCIENTIFIC AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS AT AMERICAN BEVERAGE.

EVERYONE LOVES CHOCOLATE AND CANDY! CONFECTIONERY HOLDS A SPECIAL PLACE IN THE LIVES OF MANY AMERICANS AND PLAYS A UNIQUE ROLE IN A BALANCED LIFESTYLE. JOIN US ON A DELICIOUS JOURNEY THROUGH THE HISTORY OF CONFECTIONERY IN THE UNITED STATES AND ITALY, FROM EARLY NOSTALGIC SWEETS AND ARTISANAL CHOCOLATE MAKERS TO CURRENT FOOD TRENDS SHAPING THE CONFECTIONERY INDUSTRY.

SOCIAL HOUR WITH WINE AND SNACKS FOLLOWS. IF YOU CAN, PLEASE BRING AN APPETIZER OR DESSERT TO SHARE.

CALL FOR CRAFTERS & VENDORS

HIGH TEA PARTY FUNDRAISER-BENEFITING OUR NATIVITY SISTERS HOSTED BY NATIVITY DAMES

> SATURDAY | MAY 10 1:00PM-4:00PM



For more information and to reserve a table Please contatct: Kim Delatte kdelatte65@gmail.com or 703-587-2749

and engaged audience?



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Secure Your Spot and Early Bird Pricing (\$65)

Seated Dinner • Open Bar • Pirate Mystery • Costume Contest · Photo Booth · Live & Silent Auction · Class Basket Raffle · 50/50 Raffle • Heads or Tails

All hands on deck -Donate Today!

We can't make our Gala great without sponsors and donations. Great treasures to donate include: Restaurant gift cards, Performing arts or sports tickets, Personal services, Spa gift cards, Vacation home rentals etc. For more information check out the QR code. ■ Follow us on Instagram: @nativitystarsgala

Pray the Pro-Life Rosary with Us!



When: Usually Fridays after Nativity's 7:30am Mass. Where: 900 S. Washington Street, Falls Church. Join Nativity in peacefully praying the Pro-Life Rosary on the sidewalk in front of the Falls Church abortion facility for mothers in need and for the protection of human life.

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

In search of

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR FOR LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Looking for Volunteer Coordinator to staff Lenten Soup Suppers. Will work collaboratively with our Director of Youth Ministry and team of volunteers.

Details

- Suppers from 4:30-7:30 p.m.
- Main duty: assist with the planning of the event in advance, delegate tasks to volunteers, & oversee adult volunteer team
- Skills: hospitable, able to work with young people, comfort with running events





MASS INTENTIONS & MASS SCHEDULE

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

Monday, February 24th

7:30 am † Paul L. Schimmer

Tuesday, February 25th

7:30 am Special Intention for Chris Brooke (50th Birthday)

12:00 pm † John Heavey

Wednesday, February 26th

7:30 am † Catherine Cilinski 10:00 am † Raymond C. Lemanski *(Heatherwood)*

Thursday, February 27th

7:30 am † Bishop Teodoro Buhain

12:00 pm † Frank Klimkos

Friday, February 28th

Special Intention for Debbie & Ray Wheeler 7:30 am

† Kenneth Noseck 9:00 am

Saturday, March 1st

† Gigi Hanna 9:00 am

5:00 pm † Warren Bellamy Shull

7:00 pm Parishioners

Sunday, March 2nd

† Jairo Gustavo Vargas 7:00 am

9:00 am Special Intention for Cana Teter

11:00 am † Salim Aziz Naum & Adnan Aziz Naum

† Ruth Marie O'Neill 1:00 pm 5:30 pm † Dr. Rosan Delos Santos

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

ALTAR FLOWERS - Donated by

Mike, Terri, Matthew & Erin McClements In Lovina Memory of Hank & Joan McClements and Peter & Dawn Dichiera

Annual Multi-Car Raffle

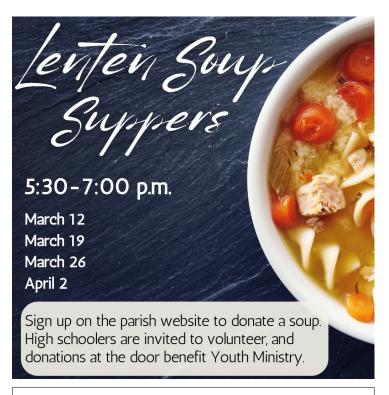
Thanks to all of you have sold your tickets so far. We still have a way to go to beat last year's sales. Every ticket sold helps and the proceeds benefit the youth ministry and Knights of Columbus charities. Each \$5.00 ticket offers the purchaser a chance to win all four 2025 vehicles plus \$40,000 in cash prizes. Please mail your sold ticket stubs/payment directly to All Saints in the envelope provided. We have additional tickets if you sell all of yours. Please contact PGK Sam Morthland at 703-455-2186 if you have any questions or need additional tickets.





MAR. 12 | MAR. 19 | MAR. 26 | APR. 2

Contact Rebecca rjudge@nativityburke.org



ECHO Collection NEXT weekend Food Room Most Needed Items

ECHO's Food Room continues to break records. We collected 1,047 lbs at the beginning of February.

- Choose sizes appropriate for our average family size of four.
- Include an assortment of food to ensure a variety of items.
- We are short on many other items such as personal care products and the items listed below.

ECHO's policy is to not give expired, open or repackaged food to clients. PLEASE do not bring these items or glass jars!!

Protein Items, e.g., can chicken, Spam, chili, Tin Fish (tuna, sardines, salmon, etc.), Canned Fruit, Bagged Beans (black, red, or garbanzo preferred), Lentils, Spaghetti (pasta and sauce) Instant and Ground Coffee, Canned Tomatoes, Tomato (paste and Tomato Sauce), Baked Beans, Bagged Rice (white, jasmine or basmati), Instant (Box) Potatoes, Crackers, Ramen, Can milk, shelf stable milk, Boxed Pasta, Juice (Bottles or box), Tea (Green, Herbal or Black), Healthy Snacks, Spices (garlic, onion, cinnamon, salt, pepper), Masa (Corn) Flour, Boxed cereal, Lemon or Lime Juice, Jelly and Honey, Tortillas, Cooking Oil, Brown Paper Bags, Reusable Grocery Bags.

Children's Toothbrushes, Laundry Detergent, Toilet Paper, Deodorant, Shampoo, Facial Tissues, Dish Soap, Paper Towels Body/Hand Lotion, Band Aids, Shaving Cream/Razors, Diapers - Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Baby Wipes, Sanitary Napkins.

The Car Ministry accepts vehicles, reconditions them and then provides them as a gift to low-income families referred by pastors and social agencies. Click on the "Donate your Car" link on the Car Ministry's website, www.carministry.org, or contact the charity's Director, Larry Gordon at 703.237.8479 for more info.

The Associates of St. John Bosco (ASJB), a Catholic non-profit in the diocese founded by Fr. Christopher Vaccaro, has opened its scholarship application for all current and rising college students. This year, ASJB has more than doubled their scholarship offerings! ASJB will be awarding up to \$40,000 to up to five worthy recipients who seek to serve the Church in some way after they graduate from college. Applicants must be residents of the Diocese of Arlington. Students may apply by May 19, 2025, by visiting: www.asjb.org/scholarship-program.

Teacher Job Fair



Springfield, VA

For more information, please visit the website at: https://arlingtondiocese.org/Catholicschools *Job Openings*

https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/catholic-schools/careers/ *Application Process*

https://arlingtondiocese.org/catholic-schools/careers/application/

Preparing For Lent A Women's Lenten Discernment Weekend Friday – Sunday March 13-15, 2025



Let us prefer nothing to the Love of Christ Contact Sister Kathy Persson, OSB Benedictine Sisters of Virginia Saint Benedict Moastery 9535 Linton Hall Road Bristow, VA 20136 vocations@osbva.org 571.428.2511



APPALACHIA HOME BUILDING & OUTREACH

On January 25/26, the Knights spoke at all Masses asking for help to build Nativity's 27th home in the heart of Appalachia and to help additional families throughout the county with home repairs, hygiene kits for children, and assistance with utility and medical bills. Thank you for your tremendous generosity! We currently are at \$98,560 towards our goal of \$120,000. Donations can still be made either through electronic giving, mailing directly to the office at 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA, 22015, or by credit card. Please make checks out to Nativity Catholic Church and annotate on your check that it is for the Appalachia Home Building project and include your envelope number for ease of posting to your account. Refer any questions to Bob Corsi, bobcorsi@cox.net or 703-239-2890.



THIS LENT, JOIN THE DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON FOR AN ENLIVENING JOURNEY TO THE HEART OF JESUS!

A HOLY PEOPLE: LIVING THE SCRIPTURAL AND SOCIAL TEACHING OF OUR FAITH

How can we faithfully follow Jesus Christ, loving the Lord with all our heart, soul & mind and our neighbor as ourselves? This adult faith formation series shows the way through Prayer, Scripture, the Beatitudes, and the rich Social Teaching of the Catholic Church.

Topics for this prayerful, guided interactive in-person faith program formation series includes:

- Holiness: The Heart of Catholic Social Teaching
- The Great Commandment and Human Dignity
- What is Social Sin and how should we respond?



When: 5 Tuesdays in Lent starting March 11 - ending April 8 at 7:30pm Where: Cathedral of St. Thomas More, Burke Hall, 3901 Cathedral Lane, Arlington, VA 22203. We are excited to see you as we walk this journey together. As the Lord said, "Come and See!"





A message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Virginia Interfaith Power & Light's (VAIPL) theme this year is "Rooted in Hope, Growing Justice."

Hope inspires us to work for a livable future for all of Creation. Their mission is to achieve climate and environmental justice for Virginians and our world by collaborating with people of faith and conscience. In the New Testament book of Romans 12:12 we read, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." VAIPL suggests that we strengthen our hope for a livable future together over the 40 days of the Lenten Season. Over the Sundays of Lent, Creation Care Ministry will summarize some of the suggestions in their daily Lenten Calendar. To receive the full calendar,

email nativitycreationcare@gmail.com. Week one will be, "Rethinking food and honoring God's abundance." "We abuse the land because we regard it as a commodity, belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, then we may begin to use it with love and respect."—Aldo Leopold



NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

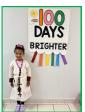
Nativity A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence nativityschool.org



The Hundredth Day of School -A One-Hundred Percent Success!



Our Kindergarten students recently commemorated the 100th Day of School, on Wednesday, February 5! To celebrate, they dressed up as 100 -year-olds and took part in a variety of activities, including building a tower with 100 cups, creating 100 stamps, sorting 100 stickers, coloring 100 gumballs, and making fun 100 day crowns.







Join us at Nativity to see how your child would spend his/her days here -- learning, praying, sharing, loving, and laughing. Contact Shannon Murphy at (703) 455-2300 or smurph@nativityschool.org.



Important Upcoming Dates ~~

Wednesday, Feb 26 – Career Day Saturday, March 1 – Confirmation Retreat 8th Grade Tuesday, March 4 – Mardi Gras! Wednesday, March 5 – Ash Wednesday Friday, March 7 – No School/End 2nd Trimester Wednesday, March 5 – Ash Wednesday Friday, March 7 – No School/End 2nd Trimester

Love working with children? Want flexibility? Consider subbing at Nativity School... Please Join Us! We are in need of substitute teachers with the following minimum qualifications:

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

Contact Mrs. Shannon Murphy at (703) 455-2300 and/or smurph@nativityschool.org.





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

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

Volunteer for an event! Scroll down to view all events.

https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992

St. Patrick's Dinner Dance: Prep Friday, Mar 14 with event Saturday, Mar 15. This annual event requires lots of support to be successful! Sign up on SUG on LinkTree.

Food for Others: Volunteer for food distribution to the poor, delivered on designated Thursday or Friday evenings. For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net. Fridays, contact Br. Matt

Stockburger at mstock w@yahoo.com. Deliver food from Giant to the FFO warehouse Tuesday mornings; contact Br. Bob Colella robert.colella.86@gmail.com.

Name Tags: If you have not received your name tag, email Warden Steve Resch at warden7992@nativityburke.org.
Nativity Ushers assist at collections: Volunteer for your Mass!

Volunteer on Link Tree for a database of potential helpers! Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies: We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. See Linktree.

Handy Knights Ministry: Parishioners unable to perform basic maintenance tasks or small home repairs due to health or other factors, contact the "Handy Knights."

Email handyknightsofnativity@gmail.com.

The Fraternal Committee: Brothers helping brothers in need of assistance. Brothers and their families (living and deceased) in need of a helping hand, contact Br. John Landy at

navyy8@yahoo.com. 3rd Degree Knights: Grow with 4th Degree - participate in patriotic activities that promote Catholic citizenship. 4th Degree Assembly meets the second Tuesday of the month in the Nativity school cafeteria: 7:30 PM rosary, 7:45 pm business meeting followed by fellowship. If you are interested, please contact our Faithful Navigator Mark Corzine at fn2996@vakofc.org. Join the Knights! The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend values in a busy changing world. Join today at https://www.kofc.org/joinus. Your dues will be free for one year: Be sure to enter our council #7992 and the code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY when you register. Please email our Deputy Grand Knight, Michael Bender, at dgk7992@nativityburke.org or the Grand Knight, Chris Odell

at gk7992@nativityburke.org with any questions.

IN MARY'S FOOTSTEPS A Group for Widows

In Mary's Footsteps is a faith and fellowship group that focuses on the continuing journey of widows. Meetings are held the second Monday of every month at 11:00 am in the Father Ready Room. They include prayers offered for our beloved husbands, time to talk about them and our needs moving forward. Numerous other fellowship opportunities are available throughout the year. Contact Cat Sands at 703-455-2400 or csands@nativityburke.org for more information.





47th Annual Gaelic Mass in Honor of St. Patrick
The 47th Annual Gaelic Mass in Honor if St. Patrick will be held
on Monday, March 10th, 2025 at 7:00pm at St. Agnes Catholic
Church (1910 N. Randolph St. Arlington, VA 22207).
The Mass is organized and hosted by the Col. John Fitzgerald
Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) and will be in
the original Gaelic format composed by Sean O'Riada. The Mass
will include organ, harp and choral accompaniment, all with
English translations. The celebrant will be Rev. M. Valentine
Keveny from County Mayo, Ireland. A light reception to follow.
Please contact Jim Rocco (roccoj4@gmail.com) with any
questions about the Mass or the AOH.





EMAIL & TEXTING SCAM ALERT

Nativity parishioners, please be aware of email scammers posing as Nativity priests. If you receive an email or text from any Nativity clergy urgently asking you for favors or money, this is a scam. Please ignore and block the sender. If you have any questions, please call the Nativity Parish office: (703) 455-2400





RESTORE THE CHURCH BUILD THE FUTURE

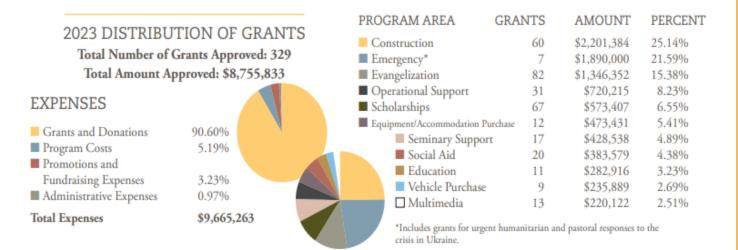
Decades ago, the bishops of the United States established a program to aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe and help it rebuild after decades of communist oppression. The program is funded by an annual collection taken up in dioceses across the United States. That response continues today, even as the rebuilding Church faces the new challenges of war and the mass migration of refugees.

From the beginning of the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and the subsequent war, the Catholic Church has vigorously responded to the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe by offering shelter, food, medicine, and necessities—as well as spiritual support and comfort—to displaced persons and other war victims. Among those leading this charitable response are the consecrated religious sisters and brothers of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. Whether by providing shelter and basic necessities to internally displaced persons who have fled their homes for safety in other regions of the country, or by helping priests provide pastoral and humanitarian support in areas where the fighting is most heavy, these sisters and brothers have truly showed Christ's mercy to those most in need.

For them, the human suffering of war is compounded by the unique challenges that wartime conditions present for them as consecrated religious. Questions of how religious communities balance ministry to the needy with the sisters and brothers' needs to live their vows of prayer and community under such extraordinary circumstances require thoughtful responses.

Aided by funding from the collection, the Patriarchal Curia of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church gathered sisters, brothers, and their superiors for the spiritual renewal of a pilgrimage as well as formation sessions to address the challenges facing their communities. Your support for the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe is a vital way for you to make a tangible difference in the lives of Catholics in Ukraine and more than 25 other countries in Central and Eastern Europe.

More information about the collection and the range of projects it supports can be found at www.usccb.org/ccee.







Follow Bishop Burbidge on Twitter!

Bishop Burbidge has over 25,000 followers on Twitter! His daily reflections and posts are popular and insightful. Follow him @BishopBurbidge.

Gifts for Seminarian Education Endowment Fund (SEEF)

Please support our seminarians and SEEF, a permanent endowment fund established in 2011. SEEF's income provides funding for annual seminarian expenses such as room, board, tuition, health insurance and books, which total almost \$45,000 per seminarian. Please give generously!

To donate, make checks payable to: "Foundation for the CDA - SEEF." Mail to: The Foundation, 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203. Questions: contact John French at john.french@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-3819.



Pro-Life Corner

March for Life Recap: Nativity's MFL event kicked off with a beautiful Mass for Life celebrated by Msgr. Bob. All 38 of us boarded the bus and we prayed the Pro-life Rosary on the way there.

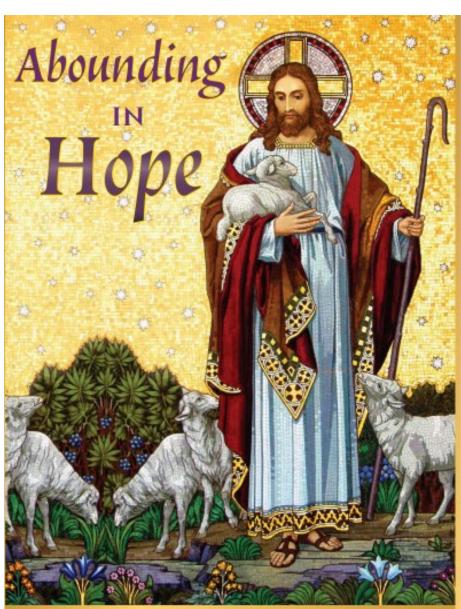
We took various group pictures, such as in front of the Washington Monument and the U.S. Capitol, and attended the Rally. Diana Huynh captured a focused Fr. Bresnahan and Nativity banner-carrying Darren Randall in this iconic MFL pose below. There were many inspiring and hope-filled Rally speeches towards ending the scourge of abortion and about the dignity of life. Senate Majority Leader Thune spoke first, saying "We stand here today... to remind people of the great truth upon which our country was founded—all men and women are created equal and endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights and that among these are the rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Speaker of the House Johnson noted that "As one of his first official acts. President Trump just freed and pardoned nearly two dozen wrongfully imprisoned pro-life activists. And I don't know if you saw his executive order on gender, but it defines life as beginning at conception rather than birth." Gov. DeSantis took the stage. "The sanctity of life does not depend on poll results... It's an enduring truth and it represents the foundation of our society." Rep. Smith spoke of pregnancy centers being "under siege by politicians" and called for the defunding of Planned Parenthood. "Today, we recommit to exposing abortion methods, which the other side never wants to talk about. To a society that has chosen to be blind to the realities of brutally dismembering helpless babies with sharp curettes, knives, and the kids we know feel pain... and also the poisoning of babies, starving them to death with the abortion pill." Lila Rose, reminded pro-lifers that they have "the power to change minds at the dinner table, on campuses, at soccer games." President Trump (who spoke via pre-recorded message) thanked the marchers for showing "extraordinary love and compassion" for preborn children, and said, "We will work to offer a loving hand to new mothers and young families... and we will support adoption and foster care. We will protect women and vulnerable children under my leadership. A reformed Department of Justice will finally investigate... attacks on churches and crisis pregnancy centers and we will bring perpetrators to justice." Vice President Vance then took the stage. "The task of our movement is to protect innocent life. It's to defend the unborn and it's also to be pro-family and pro-life life in the fullest sense of that word possible ... and truly believes that the benchmark of national success is not our GDP number or our stock market but whether people feel that they can raise thriving and healthy families in our country." Vance also spoke about Trump's endorsement of the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act ... and spoke of how the government will no longer direct FBI raids on the homes of pro-life activists or put pro-life activists in prison. He spoke of Trump's pardoning the pro-lifers imprisoned. [The above Rally texts are excerpts from Live Action article, March for Life 2025 speakers inspire: 'We have the truth on our side'. By Nancy Flanders, January 24, 2025.]









THE BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL:

Your GIFTS AT WORK IN OUR DIOCESE!



WorkCamp is well known as one of the most popular ministries of the Diocese with over 660 teens providing a week of service to the less fortunate in our communities. What is less known is that more than 100 young adults participate annually in this week of service by supporting the teens. Service has always been one of the most effective ways to help young adults become more active in their faith lives.



There are 42 men currently studying for the priesthood, who – God willing – wil¹ one day serve in our parishes.



The Office of Hispanic Ministry served nearly 400 families with Quinceañera and Marriage Preparation Retreats and formed approximately 500 students and lay ministers through the Institute of Pastoral Formation and Liturgical Trainings.



Gabriel Project provided prenatal care and support for 500 pregnant mothers in need!



Catholic Charities continues to meet the increase of requests for rent/mortgage and utilities assistance, groceries, and mental health counseling. The St. Lucy Food Project fulfilled nearly 70,000 requests for assistance, distributing over 2.1 million pounds of food last year.

A Message from Bishop Burbidge



Having celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Diocese of Arlington, we move forward renewed and united in faith. The 2025 Bishop's Lenten Appeal theme is "Abounding in Hope," which reminds us of this great theological virtue that is rooted in Jesus Christ and the victory he won for us.

I invite you to allow God's generous love to be made visible through you by prayerfully considering a sacrificial pledge to the Bishop's Lenten Appeal this year.

Through the intercession of Mary Our Mother, may Our Lord Jesus bless you now and always.



Abounding IN Hope

This chart reflects projected 2025 BLA funding for \$22 Million which is allocated to these various areas. 100% of your gift is restricted to be used solely for the benefit of these programs and ministries.

18%

11%

10%

13%

MATCHING GIFT OPPORTUNITY!

The Diocese of Arlington has received a challenge gift to match first-time or increased donations to the 2025 BLA. This is your opportunity to enhance your gift and provide greater assistance to those in need!

For existing BLA donors, every dollar donated above your last BLA gift amount will be matched up to \$300,000. Are you a new BLA Donor? If so, your entire donation will be matched! Doubling your impact!

How to GIVE TO THE 2025 BLA

ONLINE – Make a one-time gift or set up a pledge with monthly payments at our secure website using the QR code below or at arlingtondiocese.org/bla

PLEDGE — You can make a pledge now and send payments throughout the year. You will receive monthly reminder statements with an option to pay by credit card or direct debit until your commitment is fulfilled.

CHECK — Make checks payable to "Bishop's Lenten Appeal" or "BLA" and mail to the address below.

The Catholic Diocese of Arlington is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization (EIN: 54-0967542).



18% Vocations

Seminarian education and support, Vocation Awareness Programs, and the Permanent Diaconate

13% Assistance to Parishes and Missions

Programs, offices and ministries that assist our 70 partishes and 6 missions, including 4,600+ parish, school and diocesan personnel

12% Youth and Young Adult Outreach

Office of Youth, Campus and Young Adult Ministries and Campus Ministries at various colleges and universities

11% Religious Education

Catholic Schools, Religious Education Programs, and the Office of Divine Worship

11% Support for Families

Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life and the Diocesan Tribunal

10% Charitable Works

Catholic Charities, parish subsidies, and other charitable works that assist the vulnerable and needy

9% Chancery Offices

Support to the Virginia Catholic Conference and various Chancery offices which assist the Bishop

5% Evangelization Efforts

12%

11%

Includes INOVA Hospital Ministry, Peace and Justice Commission, Spiritual Assistance Ministry, and Dominican Republic Missions

4% Hispanic Apostolate and Multicultural Ministries

Pastoral services and assistance for more than 20 ethnic communities within this diverse diocese

3% San Damiano Spirituality Center

A peaceful venue with opportunities for a wide variety of retreats for laity, religious, and clergy seeking reflection and spiritual renewal in the Shenandoah Valley

2% Parish/Diocesan Properties and Land Development

The diocese purchases land for new parishes

2% Communications and Development

The Communications Office utilizes a variety of mediums to promote, educate and evangelize the faithful and wider community. Development, including the BLA and other charitable vehicles, provide strategic financial support to the diocese, parishes, and schools

For more information, please call the BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL office at 703-778-8600 or visit our website at

arlingtondiocese.org/bla

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL

200 North Glebe Road, Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203

To make an online gift or pledge, visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla Or scan here to make a donation:





Happy feast of Sts. Jacinta and Francisco Marto!



During World War I, Our Lady appeared to three shepherd children in Fatima and delivered prophetic messages of events to come. Fr. Michael Gaitley shares the story of these apparitions in this featured episode of his *Divine Mercy* series.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Book for 2025 is open. 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/.

NO HANDS BUT YOURS MINISTRY



No Hands But Yours is an original Nativity Ministry doing God's work by serving those less fortunate members of His flock. We work distributing food, clothing, and personal items to the poor and homeless in DC and northern VA every Sunday morning, rain or shine.

We also have weekly trips into designated areas bringing Panera bread donations along with help from local food banks. Through the blessings of God, we have grown through our Nativity community and continue to do so. For more details visit the Nativity Parish website at https://nativityburke.org/service/no-hands-but-yours/. Families are also welcomed! If you have interest in learning more and would like to participate in daily/Sunday runs, please contact John Rubino at: john.albert.rubino@gmail.com.



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You can download it for free and just add Nativity Catholic Church, Burke VA in the search field for our parish. If you have any questions please call the parish office.





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Laura Phelps Author and Speaker



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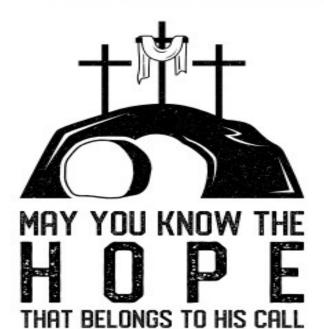












(EPHESIANS 1:18)

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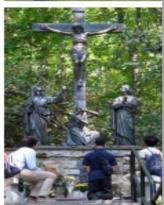
For more information and to register:

ArlingtonDiocese.org/QuoVadis ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT















Y, SOBRE TODO, ¡EL OTRO! Por Javier Leoz

1.- A punto de iniciar la Santa Cuaresma, en este domingo 7º del Tiempo Ordinario, San Lucas, nos sorprende con una serie de actitudes que, los seguidores de Jesús, hemos de cultivar y no obviar. Esos modos los podemos resumir con una frase: por encima de todo, ¡el bien del otro!

Es el mundo al revés. Es lo contrario a lo que estamos habituados a escuchar en muchos de los círculos donde nos encontramos. En definitiva, "sobre todo el otro" es la locura y el centro de la predicación de Jesús. ¿Lo es también en nosotros?

Pensar en "el enemigo" no es buscar esa categoría en las luchas fraticidas o en las películas entre buenos y de malos. El enemigo, sin darnos cuenta, se localiza muy cerca de nosotros:

- -Las personas a las que, por pensar de diferente forma a la nuestra, las alejamos de la órbita de nuestras amistades
- -Las personas que, por pequeñas o grandes decepciones, las hemos dejado marginadas
- -Las personas que, por mil excusas o por ninguna, las hemos olvidado o, incluso, humillado.
- Todo cristiano tiene dos caminos: uno el que conduce hasta que Jesús y, otro, el que conduce exclusivamente a uno mismo.
- -El cristiano que elige el camino hacia Jesús, cae en la cuenta de que -ese camino- tiene una derivación obligatoria: los hermanos que nos rodean.
- -El cristiano que, por sistema o con mil excusas, opta por el camino de "uno mismo" corre el riesgo de poner en el centro sus propios intereses. Corremos el peligro de buscarnos a nosotros mismos. De gritar a los cuatro vientos aquello de ¡sálvese quién pueda!
- 2.- Ante la próxima cuaresma, el evangelio de este día, es casi un anuncio de lo que conllevar el vivir codo a codo o el trabajar mano a mano con el Señor: el bien del otro. Por encima de todo y sobre todo, el bien del otro.
- ¡Tiempo vamos a tener en la Santa Cuaresma para ajustar y hacer más auténtica nuestra vida de fe!
- ¡Tiempo vamos a tener en la Santa Cuaresma para intentar, por encima de todo, acompañar a un Jesús que nos invita a la conversión, a la sinceridad y...a tratarnos los unos a los otros con un poco más de cordialidad y de amor!
- ¡Tiempo vamos a tener, en la Santa Cuaresma, para saber que los juicios los hemos de dejar en las manos de Dios y, en cambio, la comprensión ha de surgir espontáneamente de nuestro corazón!
- ¡Tiempo vamos a tener, en la Santa Cuaresma, para mirarnos en el gran espejo de Jesús y comprobar si la imagen que refleja, se proyecta en nuestra vida a través del desear el bien a los demás; la paciencia; el buen trato; el amor sin distinción o el perdón por aquellas pequeñas cosas que nos hacen o que forjamos en las luchas de cada día!
- 3.- Nuestra vida cristiana no puede ser un carnaval. Es decir; un traje bajo el cual nos ocultamos para aparentar lo que no somos o un disfraz que utilizamos de vez en cuando para ser irreconocibles. Entre otras cosas, nuestra vida cristiana, no puede ser un carnaval porque, Dios, siempre sabe quién se esconde detrás.

La gran fiesta que podemos preparar, a partir del próximo miércoles de ceniza, es la gran Pascua del Señor. Pasará el carnaval, enmudecerá la música, caerá el disfraz al rincón más olvidado y aparecerá aquello a lo que ninguno de nosotros podemos renunciar: nuestro auténtico rostro.

Ojala que, ese semblante, lo sepamos alegrar y divinizar con tantas cosas buenas que San Lucas nos ha sugerido en el evangelio de este día. Porque, el perfil de las personas (incluidos los nuestros) no necesitan caretas o máscaras para transmitir una alegría que tal vez no existe. Las fisonomías de las personas que creen en Jesús irradian auténtica alegría y desbordan de entusiasmo cuando...saben que el ¡todo por el otro! es lo máximo a lo que un hombre o mujer de fe puede aspirar. ¡Abajo las máscaras y arriba el rostro de nuestra fe!

4.- ¡QUITA, MI MÁSCARA, SEÑOR!

La de la sordera,

para que pueda escuchar con nitidez tu voz

La del odio,

para que pueda amar sin distinción

La de la maldición,

para que pueda desear siempre el bien

La de la debilidad,

para que presente mi mejilla donde sea necesario

La del egoísmo,

para que nunca mire lo qué doy ni a quién doy

La de la conformidad,

para que no exija lo que no me pertenece

¡QUITA, MI MASCARA, SEÑOR!

La de los malos modales,

y sea así delicado con mis hermanos

La de la maldad,

para que disfrute sembrando semillas del bien

La del usurero,

para que no busque más beneficio que el ser feliz dando

La de la dureza,

para que brote en mí la comprensión

La de la severidad,

para que sepa entender y comprender los defectos de los demás

La de la discordia,

para que vea amigos y no adversarios

¡QUITA, MI MÁSCARA, SEÑOR!

February 23, 2025

Iglesia Católica de la Natividad

Horario de Misas Miércoles de Ceniza 5 de marzo de 2025

6:00 am - 7:30 am 9:00 am (escuela y comunidad) 12:00 mediodía - 4:00 pm 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm (bilingue)

Transmisión en vivo 12:00 mediodia

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Todos los viernes de Cuaresma son días de abstinencia, el Viernes Santo es un día de ayuno y abstinencia.



Abundando en la esperanza ¡El próximo fin de semana es el domingo del compromiso con la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2025!

Una vez al año se nos pide que hagamos una promesa de contribución para mantener las buenas obras financiadas por la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo, que ofrecen servicios vitales y asistencia esencial a las personas necesitadas en nuestras comunidades. Le pedimos a cada familia que participe para ayudar a nuestra parroquia a alcanzar la meta fijada. Al participar en la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo, renovamos nuestro compromiso con el Señor con una respuesta a su llamado a servir a nuestros hermanos y hermanas. Pueden hacer su donación en línea en www.arlingtondiocese.org/



What else did Jesus teach us?

"Do <u>not judge</u>, and you will not be judged.

Do not <u>condemn</u>, and you will not be condemned.

Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

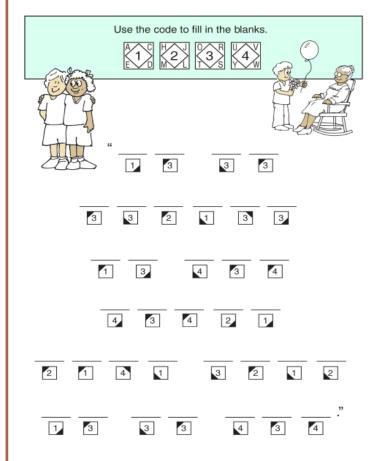
Give, and it will be given to you.

A good measure, pressed down,
shaken together and running over,
will be put in your lap."

Find the underlined words in the puzzle. Words are across, down and diagonal.

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

What more did Jesus say?



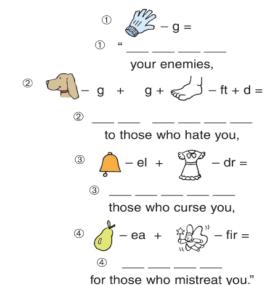


Ages 7+

February 23, 2025 • Luke 6:27-38

Love for Enemies

Add or subtract words and letters. Find something important that Jesus said.



Jesus continued, "Love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back."





"Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because He is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

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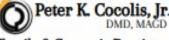
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