

You shall love
the Lord your God
with all your heart

- MATTHEW 22:37 -



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

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

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

**MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION PROGRAM:**

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

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

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



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

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

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

HOLY DAY MASSES: As Announced

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

BAPTISM: For more information 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 Fr. Bob Cilinski



***"Jesus drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and the oxen..... and overturned their tables"
- John 2:15***

My dear parishioners,

The cleansing of the temple by Jesus was imitated by Pope Francis in December 2014 in his own style when he gave the annual "Christmas message" to the Roman Curia. Francis' list of 15 Diseases of the Roman Curia was met with surprise and shock by its audience. The ailments included gossip, working too hard, forming closed circles, and being boastful. It was meant to be a sort of cleansing of the church hierarchy in the Vatican.

Some outside the church have found it a useful guide for their own organizations. The "Oxford magazine" reprinted an edited version of the 15 diseases stating that the list "sets a high standard that is applicable in Oxford as much as in Rome."

Other publications have also held up Francis' approach as one to follow. "The Economist" described the Pope as a "turnaround CEO."

Maybe we can use this list of 15 diseases as a Lenten reflection here at Nativity, choosing 2 or 3 each week of Lent to reflect on. In his humility, Pope Francis included himself in his critique of the Curia. I just love Francis!!

Here's the list. Happy Lent - love and blessings,
Fr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

15 DISEASES OF THE CURIA

- *Feeling Immortal or Essential (feeling superior to everyone)*
- *Excessive Activity (working too hard, take time to rest a little)*
- *Petrification (hard heartedness)*
- *Over planning (detail oriented and not leaving room for the Holy Spirit)*
- *Bad Coordination (no team spirit or cooperation)*
- *Spiritual Alzheimer (lost your memory of your encounter with Jesus)*
- *Rivalry (being vain)*
- *Double Life (letting your degrees and titles create a parallel world that is not real)*
- *Gossip and chatter*
- *Deifying Leaders (careerism)*
- *Indifference to Others (thinking only of self)*
- *Funeral Face (scowling and unfriendly)*
- *Hoarding*
- *Closed Circles (drop the cliques)*
- *Worldly Profit (power games, desire for more & more power)*

It received a lukewarm reception in Rome, it was like turning the tables over on them, but some in the secular world see its wisdom. The remedy for each disease is to become more like Jesus..... That is Pope Francis' hope for the Curia and for the entire Church.

"Lord, grant us the grace to know we are sinners"
- Pope Francis



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

Thank you, Nativity parishioners, for your continuing strong support for this year's Bishop's Lenten Appeal. As of February 22, our pledges and donations amount to \$523,526 with about 11 percent of families pledging. That's 72% of our \$725,000 dollar goal! We're advancing well, but still need more participation. If you haven't yet pledged, please consider a sacrificial offering for Lent.

Your support helps the many charities, ministries, and programs throughout the Diocese and here at Nativity. May God bless you for your generosity!



SCAN ME

SAVE THE DATE

Please join us for a Night of Reflection with

Irish Tenor Mark Forrest

On March 20th, 2024 from 7:00-8:00PM
at Nativity Catholic Church,
all ages are welcome!



**Nativity is a tithing community
Giving back a portion of God's blessings in gratitude**

Knights of Columbus 2024 St. Patrick's Day Dinner & Dance

March 16th, 2024 from 6:30 - 11:00 PM

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 16 March, 2024!

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 DJ. 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 \$40 per ticket. Children 12 and under tickets for \$15. Tickets will be sold on line via Tickleap (Link below). This event usually sells out so please get your tickets early!

For additional information, contact Patrick Bradshaw at PBradshaw2@verizon.net

<https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/kc-council-7992/st-patricks-day-2024>



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

Entrepreneurship at the Service of the Human Person

Celebrating the Dignity of Work

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

Andreas Widmer

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

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Nativity Catholic Church, Burke VA



Andreas Widmer

Founder and Director

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

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



For registration,
scan or click the QR code



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARLINGTON

Sponsored by the Diocese of Arlington Peace & Justice Commission

Did you know?

Our Nativity Rosary Ministry distributes an average of 8,000 mission rosaries a year to foreign missions and to our parish and local community groups. We also collect Old and Broken rosaries. If you have rosaries to donate there is a grey box at the back of the church where you can place your rosaries, or medals.

(no large crucifixes or written materials, please)

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

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

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

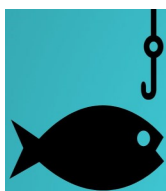
Annual Multi-Car Raffle

Thank you to those who have already returned all the tickets you have sold. Where else can you get a chance to win all four 2024 vehicles from Ourisman Ford of Manassas (Ford Escape, Mustang, Ranger Truck and Bronco Sport) plus up to \$40,000 in cash prizes for only \$5.

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 @ 703-455-2186 if you have any questions.

Knights of Columbus Frenchy Cyr Memorial Scholarships

Once again, Nativity's Knights of Columbus Council 7992 will be awarding Cyr Memorial scholarships for Catholic high school tuition (grades 9-12) for the 2024-2025 school year. Scholarship application forms will be available in the later part of March. As a reminder entrants must be registered parishioners at Nativity, or a son, daughter, or grandchild of an active member of Council 7992. Questions, please contact Dave Zivich at davezivich@gmail.com for more information.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
FR. SIKORA COUNCIL 7992

Fish Fry

Friday, March 22 | 5:30 - 8:00 PM

Limited Space available. Reserve your time slot.

Tickets on sale after Masses

on 3/9, 3/10, 3/16 & 3/17.

Dine in the Parish Hall or Take To-Go.

**LENTEN SCHEDULE****Stations of the Cross**

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

Knights of Columbus - Lenten Fish Fry

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

Extra Confession, The Light is ON for You

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

Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesday Evenings during Lent from
5:30pm - 7:00pm: March 6th & 13th

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

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

Lenten Penance Service

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

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

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



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

**FEBRUARY 28
MARCH 6
MARCH 13**

DONATIONS BENEFIT YOUTH MINISTRY

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

**SIGN UP TO DONATE SOUP OR BREAD**

Share a favorite family
recipe or experiment
with something new!

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

Nativity Stars
GALA
and Auction

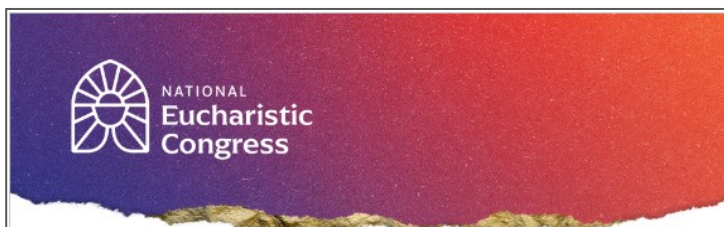
Dancing Through the Decades (50s-80s) | April 27, 2024

ITEM OF THE WEEK
LEGENDARY AFTERNOON TEA IN SANTÉ,
RITZ CARLTON (PENTAGON CITY)



ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Book for 2024 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/>.



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

Imagine you're a follower of Christ right after the Resurrection, and you hear some exciting reports: not only is Jesus alive, but he also appeared to his disciples, promising baptism with the Holy Spirit in only a few days! Wouldn't you drop everything to be there when it happens?

God is calling his people into a new "Upper Room." But this time, it has to fit more than a few dozen of his followers... This time, we had to rent out Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis! Mark your calendars for July 17th through the 21st for the National Eucharistic Congress. At this historic event, the Church in the U.S. will gather in a way this generation has never seen—ready for the great outpouring of grace God desires to lavish upon his people. Tens of thousands of Catholics from all over the country are planning to attend, and it is our hope that members of our parish will be among them. The grace you receive will overflow into our community when you return home. This is the beginning of a new chapter of Eucharistic faith in America, and the Congress is your opportunity to be a part of this pivotal moment in Church history.



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

Monday, March 4th

7:30 am † Salomon Mahmud

Tuesday, March 5th

7:30 am † J. LaRosa Greene

12:00 pm † Lucille Klein

Wednesday, March 6th

7:30 am Special Int. for Valentine Family

3:00 pm † Joseph Ruggiro (*Sunrise Living*)

Thursday, March 7th

7:30 am † Genevieve & Donald Valentine

12:00 pm † Marshall Levitan

Friday, March 8th

7:30 am † Anastacio Lao

Saturday, March 9th

9:00 am † Victor Yau

5:00 pm † Deceased Bauer Family Members

7:00 pm † Alejandro Quispe

Sunday, March 10th

7:00 am Parishioners

9:00 am † Sam Gensel

11:00 am † Elizabeth Keenan

1:00 pm † Paul & Kay Stuchlack

5:30 pm † Sara & Jose Correa

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

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sister Mary Attilia

March 3rd



Nativity Job Opening Coordinator of Youth, Young Adult, & Family Ministries

We are looking to welcome someone to join our ministry team, which is part of Nativity's very joyful parish staff. The Coordinator will support our growing and vibrant Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministries at Nativity. This full-time position offers the opportunity to engage in direct relational ministry with the young people of our Church.

To apply, see the job opening on our website:
<https://nativityburke.org/nativity-jobs/>



The Mariah Center, a pro-life pregnancy resource center serving families for 50 years, is experiencing an influx of new families (741 new in addition to our existing families in 2023).

We are in need of additional volunteers, especially Spanish translators. Our hours at the Center at 3230B Duke Street in Alexandria are Mon-Thurs 10:00am-3:00pm & Sat. 10:00-11:00am. We welcome your call and heart of service to help so many in need. Please call Beth Gilles-Whitehead at 703-370-4774.

Join us to celebrate our 50th anniversary!

DIocese of ARLINGTON
JUBILEE FEST

FREE EVENT FOR ALL AGES!

JUNE 8 | MASS | MUSIC | FOOD | 3:45-9:30 PM
WARREN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
FRONT ROYAL, VIRGINIA

Registration is required to receive complimentary food.
Visit arlingtondiocese.org/jubilee-fest for a full schedule and more details!



A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Fast from Plastic: Consider making a fast from plastic. Plastics are made from fossil fuels – four percent of the world’s annual petroleum production is converted directly into making plastics, and another four percent gets burned to fuel the process. Only about seven percent of plastics are recycled. The U.S. has one of the highest plastic consumption rates in the world.

Fairfax County suggests, “Choose to refuse. By refusing, you can say NO to purchasing many items that are not ultimately recyclable. Always choose to refuse single-use plastic items, which have an average life span of 15 minutes before they are thrown away. Many single-use items may be improperly disposed of and end up as litter. Much of the plastic found floating in our oceans and rivers are single-use plastics, such as plastic bags, water bottles, takeout containers, cups, and straws. Pro-actively say NO to single-use items by bringing your own reusable bags and refillable beverage containers, straws, or takeout containers. Challenge yourself to find waste-free alternatives for other items provided to you with takeout food, such as napkins, beverage containers, and cutlery.”

The EPA recognizes that “plastic pollution negatively affects both the environment and public health, with underserved communities often bearing the brunt of its impact. By taking action on plastic pollution, we can protect our planet and ensure that the benefits of cleaner communities and reduced exposure to harmful chemicals are accessible to all.”

LIVING STATIONS
of the Cross

Experience the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord through a living tableau of the Stations of the Cross.

Friday, March 22
7:00pm in the Church

Now recruiting high schoolers - no theater experience necessary.
Contact Rebecca at cym@nativityburke.org

Presented by
Nativity Youth Ministry

ECHO Food Room Most Needed Items Collection THIS weekend!

- Choose sizes appropriate for our average family size of four.
- Include an assortment of food to ensure a variety of items
- ECHO continues to see a deficit of several thousand pounds a month between food donated and food given to clients. Any donation, large or small, is most gratefully welcomed.

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

Tin Fish (tuna, sardines, salmon etc.), Spaghetti Pasta and Sauce, INSTANT Coffee (many clients do not have coffee makers), Can Tomatoes, Baked Beans, Can Fruit, Bag Rice (Clients prefer white, jasmine or basmati), Instant (Box) Potatoes, Crackers, Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup, Ramen, Hot Chocolate, can milk, shelf stable milk Can Meat (chicken, Spam, chili, small hams, beef stew etc.), Juice (Bottles or box), Tea (green, herbal or black), Spices (garlic, onion, cinnamon, salt, pepper), Healthy Snacks, Masa (Corn) Flour, Lentils, Bag Beans (black, red or garbanzo preferred), 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, Bath Soap, Facial Tissues, Dish Soap, Paper Towels, Band Aids, Baby Wipes, Diapers - Sizes 3, 4, 5, Sanitary Napkins, Shaving Cream/Razors.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS
~ SUMMER CAMPS ~
JULY 8-19, 2024
Manassas, VA | Burke, VA
SpotlightSummerCamps.com

BROADWAY SPOTLIGHT
DRAMA BOOTCAMP
ARTS & CRAFTS FUN
ART EXPLORER

Every Friday, Come Pray the Pro-Life Rosary

From 8:45am-9:45am, when you are available, you're welcome to meet in the Narthex after any Friday 7:30am Mass and join us on the sidewalk in front of the abortion facility at 900 S. Washington Street, in Falls Church. Contact RickLoffredo@outlook.com for more information

YOUTH MINISTRY

LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12

DINNER - FELLOWSHIP - PRAYER & FORMATION

Sundays | 6:30-8:30pm

HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUPS

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

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



EDGE: GRADES 6-8

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

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

LOOKING FOR TEENS AND ADULT VOLUNTEERS

Enter into the season of Lent by participating in the powerful devotion of the Stations of the Cross. No previous theater experience is required, and there are no lines to memorize. Reach out to cym@nativityburke.org to express your interest. Rehearsals begin March 10.

[See website for full schedule](#)

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

✉ cym@nativityburke.org 📷 @nativitycym

"You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything..." Exodus 20:4

How many "gods" do you put before God? "Idols" do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health. Pray for God's help to prune our vices and to grow in virtue.

Twelve Seminarians to be Ordained Transitional Deacons

On Saturday, April 6, Bishop Burbidge will ordain 12 seminarians to the Transitional Diaconate: Timothy Banach, Emmanuel Carreño-García, Joseph Connor, Jordan Evans, John Fimmuchime, Raymond Goins, Andrew Lewandowski, Richard Malebranche, John Meyerhofer, Christian Njodzela, Michael Sampson and Alfredo Tuesta. The Mass will be held at St. Theresa Catholic Church in Ashburn at 11:00am and will also be livestreamed. Visit www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/Ordinations to learn more about these men, what led them to seminary, and about the ordination events. Pray for our future priests!



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT MINISTRY

CULTIVATING AN ENGAGED FAMILY

Date Night

Guest speaker

**DR. MICHAEL
HORNE**



Nativity School Cafeteria 6:30- 8:30 PM

MAR

23rd

2024

Dinner & Childcare Provided

To register or for more information
please contact Anna Lisa Licud:
marriage@nativityburke.org




NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence
nativityschool.org


Nativity's Presidential Class

In one of our favorite Second Grade traditions - in honor of Presidents' Day - each student adopts the persona of one of our U.S. Presidents, delineates his policy, and responds to questions in-character.

In this column, you see William Howard Taft, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Thomas Jefferson, Woodrow Wilson, John Adams, Lyndon B. Johnson, Barack Obama, and Andrew Jackson. See our Facebook page for additional presidential photos.





Is Your Child Turning 3 By the End of September? We've Got Just The Spot – In Our Classroom!
Email Jen Behan to schedule a tour of our classrooms, playground, and lunchroom – and to meet our teachers at jbehan@nativityschool.org. Please bring your child, too – we can't wait to meet you!

Upcoming Dates At-A-Glance!

March 4 - Read-a-thon Begins
March 5 - Steam Museum Assembly
March 7 - End of Second Trimester
March 8 - No School/Teacher Work Day
March 12 - Wendy's School Fundraiser
March 15 - Summer Uniform Begins
March 15 - Half Day, 12 NOON Dismissal
March 17 - Read-a-thon Ends
March 25 - Student Living Stations, 1:45 - 2:45 pm
March 26 - 8th Grade Field Trip
March 27 - 3rd Grade Field Trip
March 28 - Seder
March 28 - Easter Break Begins, 11:30 am Dismissal

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



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

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

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

15 & 16 March - St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance: (several different positions need our support) Volunteer on Link Tree.

22 March (ticket sales 9, 10, 16 & 17 March) Fish Fry - Volunteer on Link Tree. **The signup to work the next Fish Fry:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945AAAB2AA64-47373674-fish#/>

The signup to RSVP to eat at the next Fish Fry:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945AAAB2AA64-47904271-lenten>

6 April - Adopt-A-Highway - Be a part of the Elite

Eight: Volunteer on Link Tree.

7 April from 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm - Easter Egg Hunt Helpers:

We need four energetic volunteers. Volunteer on Link Tree.

20 April - Pilgrimage to Saint John Paul II National Shrine:

All Knights & family members are invited to sign up.

Food for Others: Volunteer drivers & vehicle support for food distribution to the poor. Occasionally deliver Thursday or Friday evenings. For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyerkok7992@verizon.net. For Fridays, contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com.

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

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

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

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

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

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

and experience the Knights free for one year: Enter the Agent Code "CPEREZ", click "Add" and complete the form. Be sure to enter our council #7992 for local information when registering.

Subscribe to the
**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT
MINISTRY**

MONTHLY FLOCKNOTE



Ana Lisa
Marriage Enrichment Ministry Coordinator
marriage@nativityburke.org

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.


ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT ECHO

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

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




FOR ADULT CHILDREN OF DIVORCE




**ZOOM
BOOK
CLUB**

Tuesdays, 7:30 - 8:30 pm
March 19 - April 30, 2024
Cost: free
Reading: "Life-Giving Wounds,"
by Daniel and Bethany Meola



www.arlingtondiocese.org/acodbookclub
Office of Marriage, Family, and Respect Life
Catholic Diocese of Arlington



Zoom Book Club for Adult Children of Divorce

This online book club is for anyone in Northern Virginia whose parents have been divorced. No matter the circumstances, parental divorce can affect us in all sorts of ways. Join our supportive community for this seven-week book club as we read "*Life-Giving Wounds: A Catholic Guide to Healing for Adult Children of Divorce or Separation*" by Daniel and Bethany Meola. This book club is free to join; the only fee is the cost of the book. Our book club will meet on Tuesday evenings from March 19 through April 30, from 7:30-8:30 p.m. As we near the end of the book, we will plan an opportunity to get together in person. The book can be purchased at <https://www.lifegivingwounds.org>, <https://ignatius.com/>, or <https://www.amazon.com>. The Zoom link will be sent to you via email. Registration and the schedule of readings can be found here: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/acodbookclub>.

**DONUT
SUNDAY**

THIS WEEKEND





Parish Office Holy Week & Easter Hours

The Parish Office will close
at 12:00 noon on
Holy Thursday, March 28th
and will be closed all day
Good Friday, March 29th
Easter Sunday, March 31st
and Monday, April 1st

Holy Saturday, March 30th,
the Parish Office will be Open
from 9:00am - 3:00pm

Have a Blessed Easter!



BIBLE STUDIES AT NATIVITY PARISH

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

Tuesday evening Young Adult Bible Studies: 6 weeks in small groups. At different times throughout the year, we offer 6-week long Bible studies where we encounter Jesus through the Gospels. We read three chapters of Scripture each week and come together to talk about it. We put you into a group and each group chooses where to meet, usually at a local restaurant or coffee shop. Register at <https://nativityburke.org/ya-bible-study/>. Contact Alison Fram: 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. Registration for Fall 2024 will be available in July 2024. Visit <https://nativityburke.org/www/> for details about the ministry or contact wwpnativity@gmail.com with questions.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Jesus and the Eucharist

NATIVITY SCHOOL TEACHERS' LOUNGE

3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

February 16, March 15, April 19, May 17

6:30 PM Postlunch Dinner with MEM, Video Session and Reflection

For more information & to register, contact Anna Lisa please email: marriage@nativityburke.org

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT MINISTRY

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.



NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Revival

Jesus and the EUCHARIST



A SMALL GROUP SERIES FOR
**EUCCHARISTIC
REVIVAL**

Details:

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

OPEN TO ALL ADULTS IN THE PARISH

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



Full of Faith
YOUR MARRIAGE IS HALLOWED GROUND

A ONE-DAY EVENT FOR ALL MARRIED COUPLES
featuring Soren and Ever Johnson

SATURDAY
APRIL 13, 2024
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

MORE INFORMATION AND
TO REGISTER VISIT: STBRIDGETBERRYVILLE.ORG



Marriage Retreat for Couples

St. Bridget of Ireland Catholic Church (1 hour away) at Berryville, VA

When we think of 'faithfulness' in marriage, we usually think of what we *shouldn't* do. But what if true faithfulness really was a 'fullness of faith' – in one another and in God?

What if faithfulness meant a countercultural and robust way of loving and living? This spring, join Soren and Ever Johnson (co-founders of *Trinity House Community*) and hundreds of other couples from around the Arlington Diocese as we reimagine marriage as the very place where God makes faith grow.



**ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE
MUSIC MINISTRY**

The St. Andrew the Apostle Concert Series Presents:



*David & Ginger
Hildebrand
In Concert
Sunday,
the 10th of March
at four o'clock*

*An interactive concert of Early American Music
Performed on Colonial-Era Instruments*

ADMISSION IS FREE. DONATIONS WELCOME.

A meet-the-artists reception with light refreshments
will follow the concert in the Parish Hall.

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church
6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton, Virginia



For more information, call (703) 817-1770 or visit www.st-andrew.org/concerts

III Domingo de Cuaresma, Ciclo B.**Los diez mandamientos Autor: P. Raniero Cantalamessa, ofmcap****Sitio Web: P. Raniero Cantalamessa, ofmcap****Éxodo 20, 1-17; 1 Corintios 1, 22-25; Juan 2, 13-25 Los diez mandamientos**

El Evangelio del tercer domingo de Cuaresma tiene como tema el templo.

Jesús purifica el antiguo templo, expulsando del mismo, con un látigo de cuerdas, a vendedores y mercaderías; entonces se presenta a sí mismo como el nuevo templo de Dios que los hombres destruirán, pero que Dios hará resurgir en tres días. Pero esta vez desearía detenerme en la primera lectura, porque contiene un texto importante: el decálogo, los diez mandamientos de Dios. El hombre moderno no comprende los mandamientos; los toma por prohibiciones arbitrarias de Dios, por límites puestos a su libertad. Pero los mandamientos de Dios son una manifestación de su amor y de su solicitud paterna por el hombre. «Cuida de practicar lo que te hará feliz» (Dt 6, 3; 30, 15 s); éste, y no otro, es el objetivo de los mandamientos.

En algunos pasos peligrosos del sendero que lleva a la cumbre del Sinaí, donde los diez mandamientos fueron dados por Dios, para evitar que algún distraído o inexperto se salga del camino y se precipite al vacío, se han colocado señales de peligro, barandillas o se han creado barreras. El objetivo de los mandamientos no es diferente a eso. Los mandamientos se pueden comparar también a los diques o a una presa. Se sabe lo que ocurrió en los años cincuenta cuando el Po reventó los diques en Polesine, o lo que sucedió en 1963 cuando cayó la presa de Vajont y pueblos enteros quedaron sumergidos por la avalancha de agua y barro. Nosotros mismos vemos qué pasa en la sociedad cuando se pisotean sistemáticamente ciertos mandamientos, como el de no matar o no robar.

Jesús resumió todos los mandamientos, es más, toda la Biblia, en un único mandamiento, el del amor a Dios y al prójimo.

«De estos dos mandamientos penden toda la Ley y los Profetas» (Mt 22, 40). Tenía razón San Agustín al decir: «Ama y haz lo que quieras». Porque si uno ama de verdad, todo lo que haga será para bien. Incluso si reprocha y corrige, será por amor, por el bien de otro.

Pero los diez mandamientos hay que observarlos en conjunto; no se pueden observar cinco y violar los otros cinco, o incluso uno solo de ellos. Ciertos hombres de la mafia honran escrupulosamente a su padre y a su madre; pero se permitirían

«desear la mujer del prójimo», y si un hijo suyo blasfemia le reprochan ásperamente, pero no matar, no mentir, no codiciar los bienes ajenos, son tema aparte. Deberíamos examinar nuestra vida para ver si también nosotros hacemos algo parecido, esto es, si observamos escrupulosamente algunos mandamientos y transgredimos alegremente otros, aunque no sean los mismos de los mafiosos.

Desearía llamar la atención en particular sobre uno de los mandamientos que, en algunos ambientes, se transgrede con mayor frecuencia: «No tomarás el nombre de Dios en vano».

«En vano» significa sin respeto, o peor, con desprecio, con ira, en resumen, blasfemando. En ciertas regiones hay gente que usa la blasfemia como una especie de intercalación en sus conversaciones, sin tener en absoluto en cuenta los sentimientos de quienes escuchan. Además muchos jóvenes, especialmente si están en compañía, blasfeman repetidamente con la evidente convicción de impresionar así a las chicas presentes. Pero un chaval que no tiene más que este medio para causar impresión en las chicas, quiere decir que está realmente mal. Se emplea mucha diligencia para convencer a un ser querido de que deje de fumar, diciendo que el tabaco perjudica la salud; ¿por qué no hacer lo mismo para convencerle de que deje de blasfemar?

La próxima semana, nuestra parroquia realizará la Catholic Relief Services Collection. Esta colecta otorga fondos a seis agencias católicas que tocan la vida de más de 100 millones de personas en el mundo. Los fondos de esta Colecta ayudan a proporcionar alimentos a los que pasan hambre, apoyo a los refugiados desplazados, el amor de Cristo y el respeto a todas las personas. Por favor, contribuyan generosamente a la Catholic Relief Services Collection de la próxima semana y ayuden a Jesús con otro rostro, ¿le ayudarás?

Limpiar nuestros templos**8 de marzo...3° Domingo de Cuaresma****En realidad, Jesús hablaba de ese Templo que es su cuerpo. Juan 2:21**

YO TAMBIÉN ESTOY hablando del templo de tu cuerpo cuando pido que dejes que este momento en Cuaresma sea un domingo para limpiarlo. Nos han dicho que nuestros cuerpos son templos del Espíritu. Debemos tratarnos a nosotros mismos y tartar a los demás con respeto. El tiempo de Cuaresma es un momento de purificación y limpieza. ¿Qué debemos corregir en nuestra vida? ¿Qué tipo de limpieza necesitamos en nuestro templo? Hemos olvidado lo importantes que somos?

Jesús muestra ira al echar del templo de culto a quienes mitigarían su santidad con transacciones comerciales. El templo de nuestro cuerpo merece este mismo respeto. ¿Hay alguna manera en que hemos empañado la belleza y bondad de nuestro cuerpo con descuido o demasiados mimos? Hemos sido creados para dar gloria a Dios mediante la santidad y creatividad en nuestra vida. Resulta fácil olvidar el propósito de nuestra vida en la Tierra. Dedica tiempo a reflexionar sobre esta verdad.: eres un templo de Dios en el que Cristo mora.

Dios Santo, limpia mi templo a diario. Vive en mí.

Sor Macrina Wiederkehr, O.S.B.

APRENDE TU FE



Un tiempo para consolidar la fe y la vida Cristiana Cuaresma: un tiempo para que la celebración central de la Pascua nos encuentre un poco más cristianos
Por: J. Lligadas | Fuente: mercaba.org

Desde luego las cosas han cambiado. Las abstinencias de los viernes, por ejemplo, resultan a menudo poco significativas. Y los pequeños o grandes sacrificios no tienen muy buena prensa, y además no se sabe exactamente para qué sirven y si tienen suficiente sentido. Pero a pesar de que las cosas hayan cambiado, las palabras que se nos dirán durante los días de Cuaresma seguirán siendo llamadas a hacer de este tiempo un tiempo "especial", un tiempo con entidad propia. Un tiempo para consolidar la fe y la vida cristiana, un tiempo para que la celebración central de la Pascua nos encuentre un poco más cristianos. Habrá que plantearse, por tanto, qué debemos hacer en este tiempo de Cuaresma, cómo debemos vivirlo.

El sentido de este tiempo

La Cuaresma es el tiempo de preparación de la Pascua. En su origen, lo que lo caracterizaba de modo peculiar era el hecho de ser el tiempo de preparación más directa e inmediata de los que querían recibir el bautismo, que se celebraba en la Vigilia pascual.

Asimismo, era el tiempo en que los pecadores -los que habían actuado rompiendo de forma decisiva la comunión con Dios y la Iglesia- hacían penitencia para ser reconciliados el Jueves Santo y poder celebrar de nuevo la Pascua con toda la comunidad. Nosotros, ni tenemos que bautizarnos ni -probablemente- somos pecadores que hayamos roto decisivamente la comunión con Dios y la Iglesia.

Pero sin embargo el sentido de nuestra Cuaresma no debería estar muy lejos del que tenía para los que se preparaban para el bautismo o la reconciliación.

Porque sin duda es importante que, durante un tiempo concreto del año, nos digamos a nosotros mismos: "Yo fui bautizado, yo llevo en mí la marca de Jesús, yo estoy sumergido en su vida nueva. Todo eso, ¿se nota realmente? ¿no debería notarse más? ¿en qué podría notarse más?". Y decirnos también: "Desde luego mi vida no está exenta de infidelidades. ¿Soy consciente de ello? ¿Soy capaz de ponerme ante Dios y pedir perdón?" La Cuaresma es el tiempo de preparación para la Pascua. Durante los días de la muerte y la resurrección de Jesús, y durante la cincuentena que les sigue, fijaremos nuestros ojos en el camino nuevo que Jesús nos ha abierto con su fidelidad, y daremos gracias. Pero para que ello sea auténtico y verdadero, por nuestra parte, por parte de nuestro modo de vivir, deberemos llegar a la celebración pascual habiendo reforzado el seguimiento de este camino nuevo: habiendo renovado la fe y el compromiso de nuestro bautismo, y habiendo caminado hacia la reconciliación con Dios. A eso nos invita la Cuaresma. Sin pretender en la mayoría de los casos grandes cambios espectaculares en nuestra vida -¡bastante conocemos nuestras limitaciones!-, pero sí esforzándonos para que este tiempo no pase como si nada.

¿Cómo hacerlo?

Se trata de consolidar la fe y la vida cristiana, de darle impulso. Eso puede parecer quizá muy general pero conviene recordarlo.

Debemos decirnos a nosotros mismos que somos cristianos, que queremos serlo más, y que creemos firmemente que Jesucristo ha abierto en medio de nuestra historia el único camino que es absolutamente valioso. Y debemos mirar nuestra vida, hacer examen de conciencia, descubrir con limpieza de corazón qué nuevos pasos podríamos quizá dar.

Es necesario, asimismo, que los sacerdotes y demás responsables de las comunidades sepan ofrecer elementos que ayuden a esa consolidación e impulso. Por ahí debe andar la predicación de los domingos, por ahí deben ir los actos extraordinarios que acostumbran a organizarse en este tiempo (sea de forma global o acercándose a algún aspecto concreto).

Pero puede haber también algo más: algunas actuaciones peculiares que nos indiquen que nos encontramos en un tiempo peculiar.

Lo que antes era la abstinencia o la no asistencia a espectáculos, sino que tiene que salir de dentro, tiene que ser la expresión del deseo de renovar la fe y la vida cristiana.

Tradicionalmente, y en el mismo evangelio, se señalan tres actuaciones concretas: la limosna, la oración y el ayuno. El Miércoles de Ceniza leemos precisamente el fragmento del evangelio de Mateo (6,1-18) en el que Jesús habla de las tres. Valora esas prácticas, pero señala también el sentido que deben tener para que sean valiosas: no debe ser algo que se hace porque toca o para quedar tranquilo, sino que tiene que salir de dentro, tiene que ser la expresión del deseo de renovar la fe y la vida cristiana.

¿Qué significa, ahora, la limosna, la oración y el ayuno? ¿Cómo pueden vivirse cuando estamos ya en el siglo XXI?

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

3rd Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 3

Ex 20:1-17

Ps 19:8-11

1 Cor 1:22-25

Jn 2:13-25

Monday, March 4

2 Kgs 5:1-15b

Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4

Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday, March 5

Dn 3:25,34-43

Ps 25:4-5b,6,7b-9

Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday, March 6

Dt 4:1,5-9

Ps 147:12-13,15-16,19-20

Mt 5:17-19

Thursday, March 7

Jer 7:23-28

Ps 95:1-2,6-9

Lk 11:14-23

Friday, March 8

Hos 14:2-10

Ps 81:6c-11b,14,17

Mk 12:28-34

Saturday, March 9

Hos 6:1-6

Ps 51:3-4,18-21b

Lk 18:9-14

Jesus strongly reacted in Jerusalem when He drove out the money changers in the Temple. Remembering the psalm from Scripture, "Zeal for your house will consume me," imagine the disciples witnessing their beloved leader's assertive rampage of the temple that day. He was chasing away all that wasn't right and holy in the sanctuary of God. Jesus' righteous anger and firm actions were a clear sign from the beginning of His ministry that He would fiercely protect God's house, His truths, and teachings. He was serious about His mission to teach us to know God, to love Him, and to serve Him. Jesus showed us we could trust Him to keep us on the right path to heaven.

Just as Jesus was consumed with zeal for the Father's house in the Jerusalem Temple, He is also serious about His pursuit and protection of our souls, the temple of the Holy Spirit. He wants to keep us on track to our goal of heaven. Jesus suffered

and died for our sins and then resurrected from the dead so that we may have the hope of everlasting life in heaven.

If something or someone is blocking our relationship with God, making us less loving and less willing to sacrifice our selfish desires, Jesus will send the Holy Spirit to help us surrender our hearts to His Holy Will. He will pursue us with zealous passion; all we need to do is be open, listen, and follow Him. Jesus' passionate invitation and promise of heaven are there in front of us, but we must decide to answer His call, make our path straight, follow His Way to heaven, and lead others to join us.



A consistent prayer life, studying Sacred Scripture, participation in the Mass, and frequent reception of the Sacraments, along with love and service to others, are sure ways to cooperate with God's grace and strengthen our virtue and sanctity. This will surely lead to a zealous life for God and will likely draw others to Christ, too.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † What do you need to drive out of your life to help you stay on the sure-footed path of God's Holy Will?
- † In what ways are you ready to commit your life and total trust more fully to the Lord?
- † How has someone else's zeal for Christ drawn you closer in your own walk with Christ?
- † How are you showing zeal for Christ through the living example of your relationships and life?

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

March 2024

Church of the Nativity

Rev. Robert C. Cilinski, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Pope St. Zachary

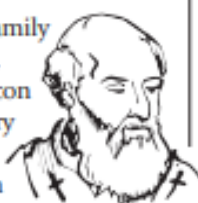
Born to a Greek family in Calabria, Italy, St. Zachary was deacon to Pope Gregory III before succeeding him as pope in 741.

As pope, St. Zachary skillfully negotiated peace for Italy several times, most notably with the Lombards and the Franks. St. Zachary supported St. Boniface's German mission, ransomed slaves sold by Venetian merchants, and supported the restoration of churches. He carried the Church through troubled times with charity, prudence, and skillful leadership.

Trust

St. (Mother) Teresa of Calcutta refused donations beyond the current needs of her community. Accepting such help would mean she didn't trust God to provide for their needs. When we rely on God, we demonstrate our faith, just as Mother Teresa did.

"God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial he will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it" (1 Corinthians 10:13).



Finish Lent strong

The last weeks of Lent can feel like the last yards of a marathon. We're just pushing ourselves to reach the finish line of Easter. Instead, think of Lent as a time of silence, simplicity, and sacrifice that helps us become the people God wants us to be. That's the real point of Lent.

Silence:

Prayer is oxygen for the soul. It is during prayer when God speaks to our hearts. Lent done right removes distractions so that our prayer is richer and our focus more attentive. It is critical to find time to be with Him in attentive silence each day.

Simplicity: Avoid material clutter. Consider the six month rule – if you haven't worn it or used it in the last

six months – give it away. Not only will you help those in need, decluttering creates room in our homes and hearts for God.

Sacrifice:

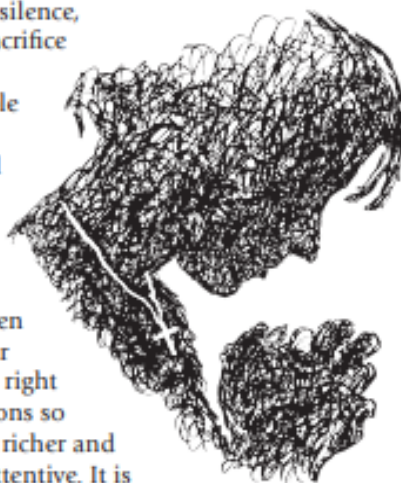
Through sacrifice we give back to God what we owe Him. While we can't repay Him for His gifts in equal measure, we can express gratitude with small sacrifices that show our return back to Him in gratitude and love.

Sacraments:

Sacraments are the fuel for fighting evil. During Lent, these spiritual battles intensify. Weekly

Mass and monthly Confession

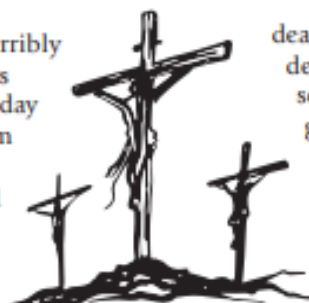
keep up our spiritual strength. Don't fight on fumes. Fuel up with the Sacraments.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics call Good Friday "good"?

Although it recalls a terribly sad event, Good Friday is "good" because it is the day when Jesus saved us from our sins, reconciled us with God, and reopened Heaven. Out of what seemed like defeat, God brought victory. By His

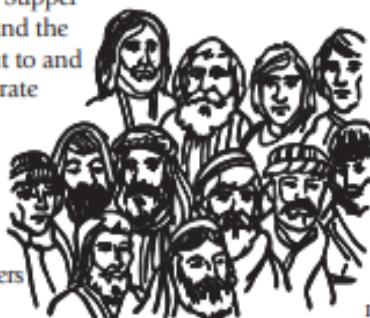


death, Jesus conquered sin and death. On Good Friday, we see more clearly God's goodness, justice, wisdom, power, and love. "God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples..."

Each Triduum begins by recalling the Last Supper during which Jesus gave us the priesthood and the Eucharist as His means of remaining present to and in His Church. On Holy Thursday, we celebrate discipleship and are all asked to renew our commitment to following Jesus.

Disciples act with love. "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35). True followers of Jesus know that how we treat others proves that we know Him and follow Him.



Disciples answer the call. God chooses us first, but we must answer the call. If Peter had not dropped his nets and followed Jesus, he would not have been a disciple. Discipleship involves a choice to drop everything for Him.

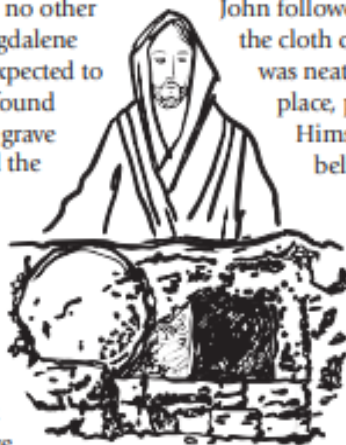
Disciples make other disciples. Ultimately, we need to do what Jesus did, which is to make more disciples. This was His final command, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). The Catholic Church's mission is to make disciples who make disciples.

from Scripture

John 20:1-9, Jesus - not death - has the last word

The Resurrection is the keystone of our Faith, making a claim no other faith can. When Mary Magdalene arrived at the tomb, she expected to find a body. Instead, she found the stone rolled back, the grave clothes neatly folded, and the tomb empty. She concluded, wrongly, that thieves had taken the Lord's body, and she ran to tell Peter and John.

When Peter and John arrived, Peter entered first and also saw that the grave clothes had been left behind, not left in a heap, but neatly arranged. No grave robber would have taken the



body and left the clothes behind. John followed Peter and saw that the cloth covering Christ's face was neatly folded in a separate place, perhaps by Christ Himself. He saw and believed.

The Resurrection proves that Christ is who He says He is. Therefore, we must give Him our final allegiance. Because Jesus rose from the dead in glory, we also have the hope of rising

in glory with Him on the Last Day. Christ - not death, sin, or evil - has the last word.

Q & A What are the Corporal Works of Mercy?

As followers of Christ, we're encouraged to care for each other. Jesus' parable of the judgment of the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25:31-46) lists the ways we can care for those in physical need: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me..." (Matthew 25:35).



These are the Corporal Works of Mercy: to feed the hungry and give

drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to visit the sick and imprisoned, to shelter the homeless and to bury the dead. Essentially, "it is by what they have done for the poor that Jesus Christ will recognize His chosen ones" (Catechism of the Catholic Church #2443).

The Corporal Works of Mercy are about being aware of others' needs and responding to them. Living the Corporal Works of Mercy is how we can make our love for God and others visible and effective. "Whatever you did for one of these...you did for me" (Matthew 25:40).

Feasts & Celebrations

March 8 - John of God (1550). Moved to repentance by a homily of St. John of Ávila, St. John left his career in the Portuguese military to establish a hospital for the sick and poor. After his death, his assistants formed the Brothers Hospitallers.

March 19 - St. Joseph, Husband of Mary (1st century). Jesus' earthly father and husband to the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph is a model of fatherhood and a protector of families.

March 24 - Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (1st Century). On

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, when He was greeted by cheering crowds waving palms. This Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week.

March 26 - St. Margaret Clitherow (1586). St. Margaret converted to Catholicism soon after she married, when Catholicism was illegal in England. Margaret continued to practice her faith, even hiding priests in her house so they could say Mass. She remained joyful, faithful, and peaceful until her martyrdom.



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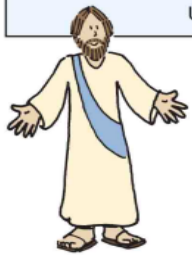
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)









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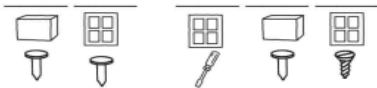


Some leaders wanted proof of Jesus' authority. He said, "Destroy this temple and I will raise it again in 3 days." They said it took 46 years to build! What temple was Jesus talking about?



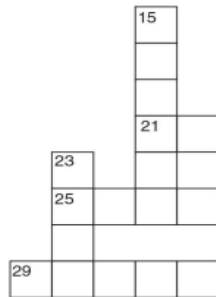
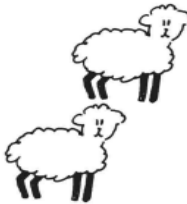
Use the graph to find the answer.

	A	D	I	O	T
	B	E	M	R	U
	C	H	N	S	Y
					



Fit the words below into the puzzle.
(Suggestion: start with the longest word.)
Write the words on the lines below.
Read the story!

out	both	their
all	said	house
the	dare	temple
and	turn	cattle
how	into	market
you	Jesus	tables
made	cords	Father's
whip	drove	scattered
from	sheep	overturned
area	coins	moneychangers



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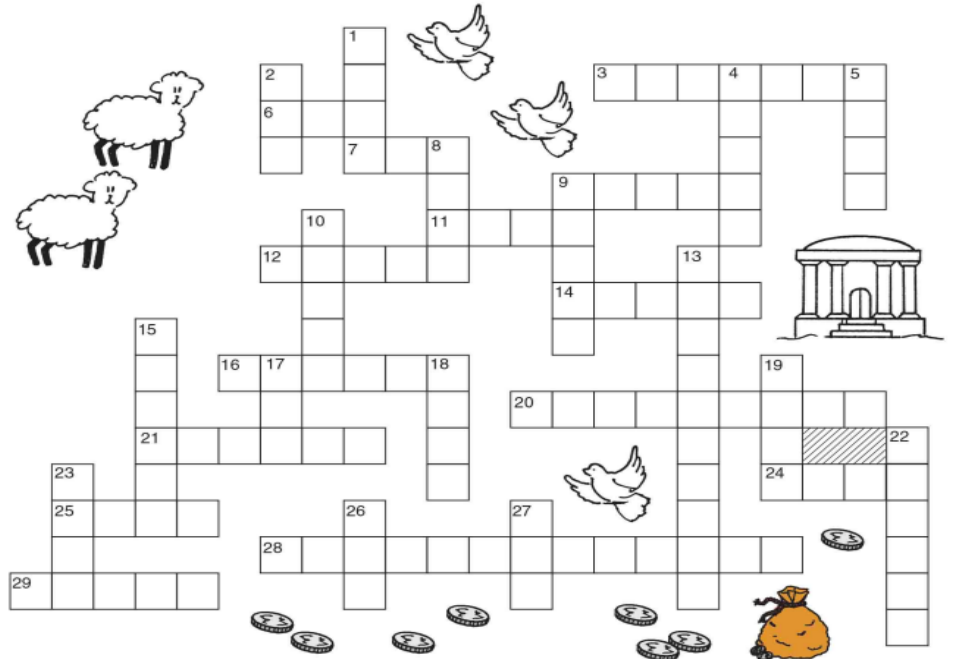
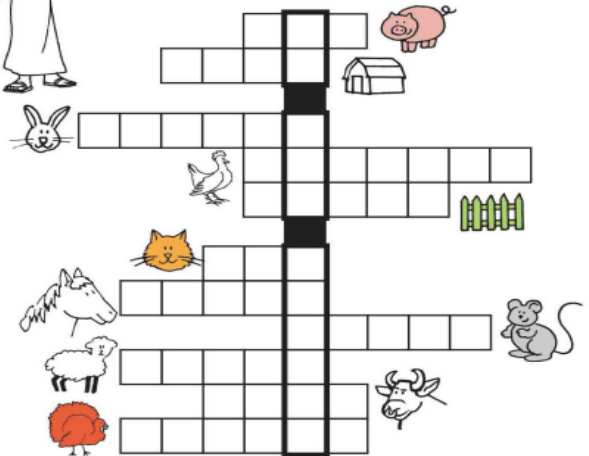
March 3, 2024 • John 2:13-22

Jesus Clears the Temple

It was almost time for the Passover. Jesus was in Jerusalem. He went to a place where He found men selling cattle, sheep and doves. Others were exchanging money at tables. Where was Jesus?



Write out the name of each picture in the boxes.
The darker ones will spell out the answer.



" _____ a _____ of _____
29 24 8 6 9D 26 14 17 19 27 22
_____, _____; He _____ of _____
25 1 12 26 15 20 27 9A 27
_____, _____ He _____, _____
28 26 13 10 21 5 7 23
_____ my _____ a _____!
2 18 3 4 11 16

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