

I WAS BLIND AND NOW I See.

JOHN 9:25



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT



6400 Nativity Lane,
Burke, Virginia 22015
nativityburke.org

REV. MSGR. ROBERT C. CILINSKI, PASTOR
REV. JONATHAN BENNETT, PAROCHIAL VICAR
REV. JORDAN EVANS, 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
Diane Dellen, Receptionist/Baptism Coordinator
Caroline Chase, Receptionist/Bulletin
Ana Gonzalez, Offertory/Mass Intentions
Charlie Gutierrez, Evening Receptionist
Patricia Pagoada, Director Family Ministry/Social Action
Tracey Hulen, Disability Inclusion Coordinator
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
Mina Lee, Cornerstone Contemporary Choir Director
Natacha Hines, Gift Shop

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Sister Donatella Merulla, A.R., M.R.E.
Sister Mary Attilia Todaro, A.R., M.R.E.
Fania Jimenez, Administrative Assistant
Joyce Kelly, SPRED Coordinator

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454-2415 or
mmtturner@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./11:00a.m./
1:00 p.m./5:30 p.m.
Monthly Sensory Mass on the
second Sunday of every month at
the 1:00pm Mass

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

ADORATION: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday

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 11:00 AM on
Tuesday (5 days prior to publication).** Please
note: this deadline can change due to holiday office
closings.

BULLETIN EDITOR:
Caroline Chase, 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**



*"I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind."
~ John 9:39*

My dear parishioners,

Reflection

The prophet Samuel was sent to anoint the one chosen to be king of Israel, but God saw something no one else did. Although Samuel scrutinized the seven sons of Jesse of Bethlehem, none were accepted as the one to anoint. When the youngest son, David the shepherd boy, was presented to Samuel, everyone assumed that he too would prove unworthy. Yet God did not look at external qualifications; God looked into the heart. God is the true shepherd of our souls. As a shepherd guides and corrects the erring sheep, so God cares for us. When we stumble in the darkness and cannot find the way, God shows us the path to life.

Sometimes we think we have insight into the ways of God, but our spiritual blindness is worse than having no sight. The blind man's sightlessness was an accident of birth. Our blindness is the consequence of sin. With the elect, our blindness is uncovered and healed and we can live as children of light. Washed in the pool of baptism, anointed with the Chrism of salvation, and fed at the table of the Lord, we too can say, *"Once I was blind. Now I can see."*

For Reflection: Am I able to recognize areas of spiritual blindness in my life? Who helped open my eyes to see Jesus?

"Lent is a good time for sacrificing. Let us deny ourselves something each day to help others." ~ Pope Francis

Love and Blessings,

Bob Cilinski
Msgr. Bob Cilinski
Pastor

ATTENTION - PARKING REMINDERS

Recently with the snow, and sometimes for crowded Masses, parishioners have to park in the neighborhood across the street. The following reminders will help with safety and allow us to be good neighbors. Under Fairfax County code and traffic regulations parking is prohibited at:

- within 10 feet of either side of a driveway
- within 20 feet of an intersection
- within 30 feet of a stop sign
- in travel lanes including turn lanes

Our neighbors understand our need to park there when services are crowded. They welcome us and appreciate our efforts to do so safely. Thank you for your cooperation!

NATIVITY LENTEN SCHEDULE

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday through March 27, 7:00pm English, 8:00pm Spanish. Good Friday, April 3, live stations at 12:00pm in English and 5:00pm in Spanish

The Light is ON for You

Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation each Wednesday Evening during Lent
6:30pm - 8:00pm Confessions

Soup Supper

On Wednesday Evening: March 18
5:30pm - 7:00pm in the Cafeteria

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

March 27 from 5:30pm - 8:00pm

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

Thursday, March 26 at 6:30 pm

Many Priests will be available for individual confessions.

For more information visit:

<https://nativityburke.org/category/lent-easter/>



**Service Opportunity for Families on
March 29th after the 9:00 & 11:00 am
Mass in the School Art Room**



Join us for the 2nd Annual hands-on Soap-Making Service Opportunity for families on Sunday, March 29th after the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM Masses at Nativity Parish. Led by the Youth Leadership Council at Kind Leaders, this meaningful S.T.E.A.M. experience invites children and youth to create mini starfish-shaped soaps that will be offered to parishioners on the third weekend of April for a suggested donation benefiting Operation Starfish.

Through this hands-on activity, participants will explore soap chemistry, measurements, and mold design while putting faith into action through service. Supplies will be provided. Sign up at kindleaders.org/events or scan the QR Code.

About Kind Leaders: Kind Leaders is a kid founded and led nonprofit organization. Its mission is to help children and youth grow as compassionate leaders and lead with love through faith-based service projects and kindness-driven initiatives. For more information visit: <https://kindleaders.org/events>.

**DONUT
SUNDAY
THIS WEEKEND**



ACCOLADE OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the Nativity 5th Grade Boys, 6th Grade Girls, and 6th Grade Boys on winning Division Championships and to all teams who had very successful seasons. We are proud of you!

Blessings, Msgr. Bob Cilinski



Nativity Lenten Fish Fry

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Fr Sikora Council 7992
 Friday, March 27th, 2026 - Serving from 5:30pm to 8:00pm
 Dine in the Parish Hall or Take To-Go

Advanced Tickets: (sold after Mass, see dates below)
 Adults \$14.00 and Children under 12 \$5.00 (kids menu)
 Tickets at the door: Adults \$15.00 and Children under 12 \$5.00
Limited Space is available. Reserve your time slot after Mass on 3/14, 3/15, 3/21 and 3/22

Online for 3/27/26:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945AAAB2AA64-62314354-lenten>

Adults	Kids
Fried or Baked Fish	Fish Sticks
French Fries	French Fries
Hush Puppies	Hush Puppies
Cole Slaw	Cole Slaw
Dessert	Dessert



3/27

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

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



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

MARCH 18

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!

Knights of Columbus

Frenchy Cyr Memorial Scholarships

Once again Nativity's Knights of Columbus Council 7992 will be awarding up to six \$1250 (increase from last year) Frenchy Cyr Memorial scholarships to students attending Catholic High Schools in the 2026-2027 academic year.

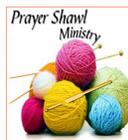
Scholarship application forms will be available in the later part of March. As a reminder entrants must be Nativity parishioners, or a son, daughter, or grandchild of an active member of Council 7992. Questions, please contact Dave Zivich at davezivich@gmail.com or 703-598-0698.

Attention Please!

ALL MASS INTENTIONS HAVE BEEN FILLED THROUGH THE END OF JUNE 2026

WE CURRENTLY DO NOT HAVE ANY MORE MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE.

THE MASS CALENDAR FOR 1 JULY - 31 DECEMBER 2026 WILL OPEN IN THE MIDDLE OF MAY, PLEASE WATCH FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE BULLETIN OR ON OUR WEBSITE.

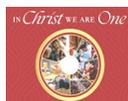


PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The next Prayer Shawl meetings for March will be held on: Monday morning the 16th at 9:30am in the Fr. Ready Room. All are welcome!

MARCH ROSARY MEETING

Spring is almost sprung and what a great time for new beginnings! Come join us on Tuesday, March 17, from 1:00-3:00pm in the Fr. Ready Room. After rosary recitation, we can teach you to make a mission rosary in under an hour! Once you've learned how to make a knot, the rest is easy and you can work in the comfort of your own home. All supplies are provided. Email rosaryministry@nativityburke.org for questions.



The 2026 Bishop's Lenten Appeal: In Christ, We Are One



Scan Me

The BLA is in full swing and we ask every household in our parish to participate. Each donation, at whatever amount, is important!

You may make a pledge or gift online at www.arlingtondiocese.org/bls or here at the QR code. As of March 3, our parishioners have pledged or donated \$465,514 toward our financial goal of \$840,000. These donations are from only about 11 percent of the total number of registered Nativity households. The BLA funds many programs, services and ministries that serve people in need and furthers the Gospel mission of Jesus Christ in our diocese.

Let us join together to do the Lord's work this Lent –

Director of Youth Ministry

Nativity Catholic Church, a dynamic parish located in Burke, VA, seeks to hire an experienced Director of Youth Ministry to be responsible for the coordination of all high school and middle school programs.

The youth minister will develop the curriculum, implement and oversee the program, collaborate with the religious education program, work with parents/adult volunteers, and act as liaison between parish and Diocese.

Work will be performed in and out of office setting with frequent evening and/or weekend work. Full time position with competitive salary and benefits.

Requirements:

- *Proven experience/knowledge of Catholic Church theology, history, and teachings.
- *Fully initiated and practicing Catholic
- *Proficient in English (oral and written)
- *Bilingual Spanish-English a plus
- *Strong communication and people skills
- *Good organizational and multi-tasking abilities
- *Ability to budget and implement financial controls.

Submit cover letter and resume to:

Msgr. Bob Cilinski
c/o Ann Benson, at 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke VA, 22015
or via email to abenson@nativityburke.org.

KOFC ANNUAL MULTI-CAR RAFFLE

HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY - May the luck of the Irish be with you when you sell your tickets! Where else can you get a chance to win all four 2026 vehicles from Ourisman Ford of Manassas (Ford Escape, Mustang, Maverick Truck (Hybrid) 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.



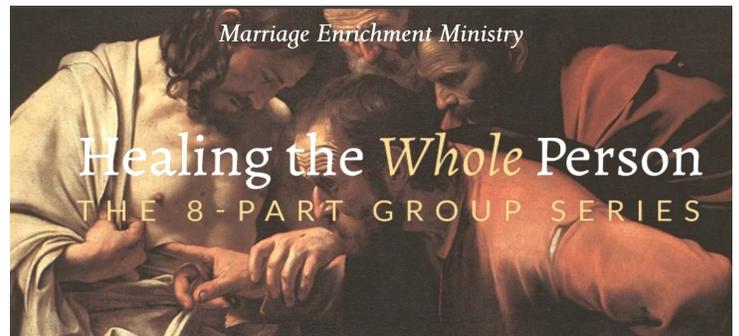
SAVE THE DATE!

Please join Father Bob for 18 holes of golf in support of the Youth of Nativity Parish! Your day includes access to the driving range, beverages on the course, lunch following play, and awards at our tournament celebration.

The Eleventh Annual Nativity Golf Tournament will take place on Monday, May 18, 2026, at Westfields Golf Club.

Can't join us that day? Please consider sponsoring a hole or taking advantage of one of our many sponsorship opportunities. We are especially grateful to all of our parish supporters who have faithfully supported this tournament for the past 11 years. Your generosity and commitment have made a lasting difference in the lives of our youth!

Visit <https://nativityburke.org/golf/> for registration and sponsorship information or email Ann Benson at abenson@nativityburke.org with questions.



Small Group Study

**Fridays, March 13 - May 15, 2026
6:30- 8:30 PM**

**Nativity School Teacher's Lounge
Potluck Dinner**

This teaching, presented by Dr. Bob Schuchts & Sr. Miriam James Heidland, is for anyone desiring wholeness, freedom, and an encounter with a loving Creator. If you're looking for a deeper understanding of God's love and the healing of your own story, you'll fit right in.



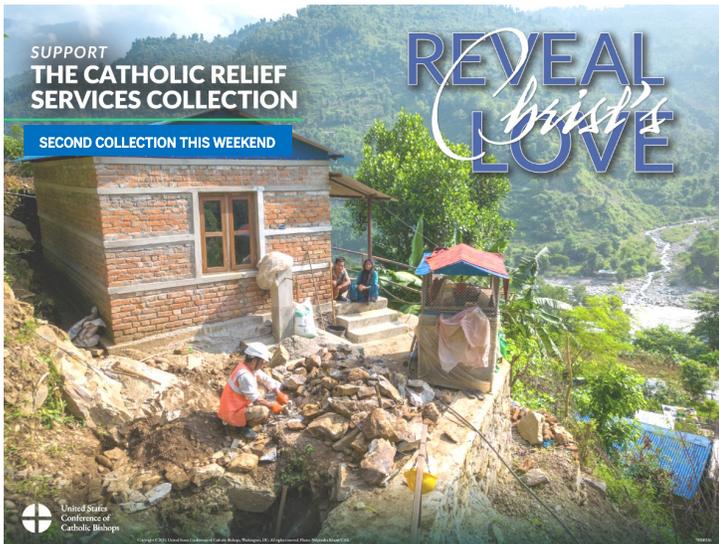
The Nativity Italian Heritage & Cultural Society invites you to join us on March 26 for a look into the cradle of the Renaissance, the arts and beauty of Florence, Italy presented by Dr. Heather Bougher.

She is Associate Professor of Art History at the College of Southern Maryland. Her presentation will focus on the art and architecture of Florence, Italy. Her talk will also concentrate on aesthetics of the 14th-16th century, in Florence. She is a member of the College Art Association, Italian Art Society, and the Renaissance Society of America.

**Date: Thursday, March 26 at 7:00pm
Place: Nativity School Cafeteria**

Social hour with wine and snacks will follow. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Join as a member or come as a guest for \$5.00.

You don't need to be Italian to join.
Just have a love for the Culture.



The Catholic Relief Services Collection funds six agencies working to reveal Christ’s love to those in need overseas and here in the United States. The collection shares its name with the flagship international relief and development agency of the Catholic bishops of the United States, but it also supports other initiatives: the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Migration and Refugee Services department for resettlement; the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC), which helps immigrants with work permits, residency, family reunifications, and citizenship; the USCCB Secretariat of Justice and Peace for advocacy of human rights and education on Catholic social teaching; and the USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church, whose ministries address the unique pastoral needs of Catholics from a range of cultures as well as itinerant peoples. Finally, this collection supports the Holy Father’s Relief Fund, Thank you for your generosity!





MASS INTENTIONS & MASS SCHEDULE

“We are God’s People”
1 Peter 2:10

Monday, March 16
 7:30 am † Charles Hummel
 12:00 pm † Dennis Lacot

Tuesday, March 17
 7:30 am † Pat Seiler
 12:00 pm † Mickey Mernah

Wednesday, March 18
 7:30 am † Fr. Ovidio Pecharoman
 3:00 PM † Alice Brown (*Burke Healthcare*)

Thursday, March 19
 7:30 am † Aninyouatef Morkos & Aatef Erian Morkos
 12:00 pm † Danilo Dizon

Friday, March 20
 7:30 am † Danilo Dizon

Saturday, March 21
 9:00 am † Bernard Becker
 5:00 pm † Hoa Ngo
 7:00 pm Nativity Parishioners

Sunday, March 22
 7:00 am † Emmett Michael Brouillard
 9:00 am † Isla June Tobin
 11:00 am † Adriana Ladino
 1:00 pm † Kevin Kennedy
 5:30 pm † Jim McKee

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



TEA IN THE GARDEN: A HIGH TEA FUNDRAISER

CALLING ALL MAKERS, CRAFTERS, AND ARTISANS!

You are cordially invited to showcase your talents at our upcoming High Tea Fundraiser benefiting the Nativity Sisters.

This year, we are transforming our space into a beautiful "Tea in the Garden," featuring a vibrant marketplace open to all parishioners. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your products and services with our community in a delightful, festive atmosphere.

When: Saturday, May 9th 2026 | 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Vendor Investment: \$25.00 per table

Reserve Your Spot: Space is limited for this special event. To ensure your place in the garden, please contact Kim Delatte at kdelatte65@gmail.com or 703-587-2749 for registration details.



SAVE THE DATE
Tea in the Garden
 A HIGH TEA PARTY FUNDRAISER BENEFITING
 OUR NATIVITY SISTERS

Step into a blooming garden for an elegant afternoon of fine tea and gourmet treats by Boyd & Parker Events. Enjoy a curated purse auction, our festive photo booth, and delightful door prizes.

SATURDAY, MAY 9TH, 2026 | 1:00 – 4:00 PM
 FATHER MARTIN CENTER

Tickets: \$45/person.
 \$48.00 if paying by credit card

Special Feature: This year, shop our vibrant garden marketplace! We are seeking select crafters and vendors to showcase their talents (\$25/table). To donate a purse or reserve a vendor table, please contact: Kim Delatte: 703-587-2749 kdelatte65@gmail.com



A Message from Nativity Creation Care Ministry

The wood frogs are here! Wood frogs are an amphibian species with a broad distribution in North America. They have a distinct black marking across the eyes and are unique in their ability to freeze over the winter—their breathing and heartbeat actually stop. Adults live in our local woodlands, hibernating during the winter in leaf litter. In the spring, they are one of the first frogs to visit ponds and vernal pools to mate and lay eggs—usually as early as late February. When you hear a quack-like call from your local woods, it may be the start of breeding season for one of God’s interesting creatures! Wood frogs are an important part of local food webs, consuming insects, slugs, snails, worms and spiders while falling prey themselves to hawks, foxes, raccoons and other predators.

Because amphibians like wood frogs absorb a significant amount of water through their skin, they are particularly vulnerable to pollutants and toxins in our water from runoff. Reducing or eliminating your use of pesticides and herbicides, avoiding oil and other fluid leaks from vehicles, washing vehicles only at car washes and picking up after pets will all help improve the cleanliness of our waterways and the health of God’s creatures who are as dependent on clean water sources as we are. When we experience warm days in this month, take a walk near a local pond or vernal pool and see if you can see or hear a wood frog or spring peeper! It’s time for a nature lesson about tadpoles and metamorphosis! And, let’s take care of “Sister Water”!

Are you registered in the Parish?

If you are not receiving mail or emails from the parish, chances are you are not registered. You are free to stop by the Parish Office to fill out a registration form to become a registered member of Nativity Parish or go online to: nativityburke.org and download one. Registration is required to be a Baptismal Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor.

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

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

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



For more information, email Rich Godwin at rgodwin@nativityschool.org, or call him at (703) 455-2300, ext.146; or you can contact Shannon Murphy, our Registrar, at (703) 455-2300, or smurph@nativityschool.org.

NATIVITY STARS
GALA & AUCTION

*Early Bird Tickets
 On Sale Now!*

♦ Early Bird: \$60 through March 31 | \$70 after

May 16, 2026 | 6:30-10:00PM

Derby-Inspired Cocktail Attire | 21+ Event

Cocktail Reception • Heavy Appetizers • Live & Silent Auction • Heads or Tails Game • Class Basket Raffle • Class “Horse Race”

Optional Whiskey Tasting Experience - available as an add-on or included with Signature Sponsor!

Open to the Nativity Parish and School community, along with their family and friends.



Tickets & info: <https://www.nativityschool.org/gala>

**160th Women’s Cursillo Retreat - April 16 - 19
 Missionhurst Retreat Center,
 4651 25th Street, Arlington, VA 22207**

Cursillo (cur SEE yo) is a lay Catholic movement that takes its name from Cursillo de Cristiandad, Spanish for “short course on Christianity.” It has been endorsed by every Pope since John XXIII. This 3-day retreat is an opportunity to examine your faith, deepen your relationship with Christ, and continue – or begin – your faith journey with the love and support of the community.

You will: Grow spiritually - Make new friends - Experience Christ’s unlimited love

More information can be found on the Arlington Diocese Cursillo website: <https://www.arlingtoncursillo.org/>. If you are interested and would like to learn more, feel free to contact Laura Laverdiere at lauralaverdiere@msn.com.



YOUTH MINISTRY

LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12
DINNER - FELLOWSHIP - PRAYER & FORMATION
Sundays | 6:30-8:30 p.m.



EDGE: GRADES 6-8
Fridays twice a month
6:30-8:00 p.m.
See website for full schedule



SOUP SUPPERS
Join us for Soup Suppers on March 4, March 11, and March 18 from 5:30-7:00p.m. in the Cefeteria. The soup donation form and volunteer form are live on the websitel

LIVING STATIONS
Save the date Friday March 27 at 7pm. Teens from our youth ministry program will be offering a moving presentation of the Living Stations of Cross. Come pray with us as we journey towards Holy Week.

See website for full schedule
Before attending, please register for the 2025-2026 year of ministry using our free, online forms.

✉ cym@nativityburke.org 📱 @nativitycym



Pray the Pro-Life Rosary and Witness with Us!
When: Friday mornings after the 7:30 am Mass
Where: 900 S. Washington St, Falls Church, VA.

Join Nativity in praying the Pro-Life Rosary for mothers in need and for the protection of human life. Your peaceful presence outside on the sidewalk in front of the Falls Church abortion facility makes a difference by increasing awareness, and for parents who find themselves in unplanned/crisis pregnancies. Contact rickloffredo@outlook.com.

Haven of Northern Virginia is a nonprofit, nonsectarian community organization of trained volunteers that offers emotional support to the bereaved, the seriously ill, the dying and to their families and friends. Haven will soon be holding the following event: Journey Through Grief Presentation on March 21, 2026 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. The theme will focus on understanding grief, how to cope with the changes, and how to take care of yourself. To register please call Haven at 703-941-7000 or email havenofnova@verizon.net.

Pro-Life Corner

Celebrating the lives of people with Down syndrome
World Down Syndrome Day is held on the 21st day of March. “*World Down Syndrome Day* was created to celebrate the lives of people with Down syndrome and to make sure they have the same freedoms and opportunities as everybody else. 21st March (21/3) matches the 3 copies of chromosome 21. This is unique to people with Down syndrome... Down Syndrome International calls everyone to action with a theme to ensure the human rights of people with Down syndrome and works with members to organize worldwide activities and discussions.”
[worlddownsyndromeday.org/]

Catholic World Report’s related article, ‘Championing awareness and possibility for those with Down syndrome’ delves deeper into the meaning of this day. “But it is also a day to create an awareness that people with Down syndrome are human beings created in the image and likeness of God and have endless potential. Catherine and Andrew Daub understand these truths and have been champions for their son Will since he was born with Down syndrome in 2020. In 2019, Catherine and Andrew discovered that they were expecting their eighth child, and tests showed that he had a 99% chance of having Down syndrome. Catherine explained that they weren’t as afraid of the Down syndrome diagnosis as they were about how others would treat their son. They knew then that they would have to spend the rest of their lives advocating for him. And once they realized this, they jumped into their advocacy with both feet... [T]hey discovered a network of knowledgeable friends and medical professionals who helped champion their son alongside them. When Will needed therapy equipment, people within the DS community stepped up to help finance it or donated some of their own.”

“This caused Catherine and Andrew to think about the vast needs within the Down syndrome community, and that’s when they decided to create **Team Iron Will** [<https://www.teamironwill.org/>] Their goal now is to champion “the intrinsic value of people with Down syndrome” by assisting families who need help in obtaining medical or therapy equipment and by advocating for and educating families and the public about the possibilities of people with Down syndrome. Since Team Iron Will’s inception, its impact has grown exponentially. In just the last three years, it has supported 3,926 families in 37 countries, delivered 374 pieces of life-changing equipment and family resources, granted 141 therapy scholarships, reached over 123 million people online with stories of dignity and hope, and provided 365 developmental and educational tools”

“In the US, nearly 70% of babies who are diagnosed prenatally with Down syndrome are aborted. In other countries, this percentage is much higher. Many countries seek to eradicate Down syndrome by eradicating people, so it is incumbent on us to teach the truth that regardless of ability, every person has immeasurable worth simply because we all exist. We are human beings from the very first moment of creation, and we all deserve protection. This fear-based mindset can only change when we talk about the facts rather than run away from and hide behind the myths... These are the lessons that Catherine and Andrew hope to impart to others, and they pray every day for their son and others with Down syndrome who are discarded before birth or disregarded and misunderstood after birth.” [<https://www.catholicworldreport.com/2026/03/03/team-iron-will-championing-awareness-and-possibility-for-the-down-syndrome-community/>]

KOVAR Enduring Love Campaign – Homes for Intellectually Disabled. Stand with parents who seek to find a home for their children that outlive their ability to provide direct care on their own. Contact Mark Sawyer, sawyer koc7992@verizon.net.

CELEBRATING 22 YEARS!

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS

~ SUMMER CAMPS ~

July 13-24, 2026
 All Saints Catholic Church in Manassas, VA
 Nativity Catholic Church in Burke, VA

THEATRE, MUSIC, AND ART CAMPS FOR ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

THIS SUMMER, YOUR CHILD WILL ACT OUT LOUD. CREATE A MASTERPIECE. SING & DANCE. TAKE A BOW.

FREE T-SHIRT AND DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR EARLY BIRD REGISTRATIONS

SpotlightSummerCamps.com

NATIVITY CYO SPORTS TRACK & FIELD



HAVE FUN AND MAKE FRIENDS AS WE RUN, JUMP, AND THROW

REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 15TH **COACHES AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Nativity is participating in Spring Track & Field! This is open to all 3rd - 8th graders attending Nativity Catholic School or Nativity's Religious Education program. Practices will begin late March and the CYO Spring Meet will be May 16th.

EMAIL CYOSPORTS@NATIVITYBURKE.ORG FOR ANY QUESTIONS.



TRIVIA NIGHT

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 25th
Fr. Martin Center (Gym)
7:00 - 9:00 PM | Doors open 6:30 PM



Think you've got what it takes? Gather your team and get ready for a night of laughs, competition, and great prizes!

Sponsored by Nativity School PTO/ 21+ Only Please

Virginia MARCH for LIFE

April 22, 2026
RALLY 10 AM | MARCH 11 AM
RICHMOND, VA

We'll see you there!



Scan the code for event details!



VIRGINIA MARCH FOR LIFE

MarchforLife.org/Virginia

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH



Multi Car Raffle

plus \$40,000 in Cash Drawings



Tickets Only \$5



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



Ford Escape



Ford
Bronco Sport

Ford Mustang



Ford
Maverick
Truck (Hybrid)



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

All tickets, stubs & monies are **due by Tuesday, 21 April** to **All Saints Catholic Church**. The drawings will be held during the All-Saints Catholic Church Fair on Saturday, 25 April. If you need more tickets or have questions, please contact PGK Sam Morthland @ 703-455-2186 or at kofc7992carraffle@gmail.com

Nativity CATHOLIC SCHOOL
 A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence
 nativitalschool.org




Nativity Students' - Winter Olympic Games!



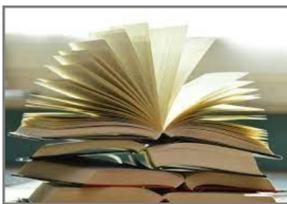
Our Kindergarten through Second Grade students explored a new STEM twist on Olympic skating! Students created figure skaters and ice hockey players able to move around homemade ice-skating rinks with the use of magnets, jumbo craft sticks, and a splash of blue paint, during their MakerSpace class.

Our First Grade Assistant Teacher, Kathleen O'Leary, and our PE and MakerSpace Teacher, Annie McGraw, teamed up during the recent 2026 Winter Olympics, held in Milan and Cortina, Italy, to guide their students into creating their own Magnetic Ice Skaters, right here in our dedicated MakerSpace at Nativity.



**Next Sunday, September 22 ~
 GRAND OPENING, BOOK FAIR
 In the Media Center
 Join Us 8:30 am - 2:30 pm**

Our Book Fair will feature a wide range of books suitable for all age groups and interests. From the latest children's fiction to timeless classics, there's something for every young reader. This is a fantastic opportunity for you and your child to find new books to read, cherish and enjoy.



Important Upcoming Dates ~

March 16 - No School

April 3 - Easter Break Begins

May 25 - No School/Memorial Day

At Nativity, faith fills us. Love lives here. Nativity Stars are filled with the Holy Spirit! Join us to see how your child would spend his or her days here - learning, praying, sharing, and laughing. We may be just the school for which you've been searching! Contact us at www.nativitalschool.org, (703) 455-2300, or smurph@nativitalschool.org.



Follow Bishop Burbidge on X!

Bishop Burbidge has over 28,800 followers on Twitter! His daily reflections and posts are popular and insightful. Follow him @BishopBurbidge.




Fr. Sikora Council 7992 Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. The 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.

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 **RCANTER** when you register.

Please email our Deputy Grand Knight, Vince Augelli, at dgk7992@nativityburke.org or the Grand Knight, Michael Bender at gk7992@nativityburke.org with any questions.

Volunteer for an event! Scroll down to view all events, https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992.

Knights, are you receiving the Grand Knight Newsletter? If not, go to: <https://NativityBurke.flocknote.com/NativityKnights> to sign up.

15 March: Donut Sunday - Please sign up to help with this popular parish event! SUG is live!

Fish Fry #2: March 14-15 & 21-22 / 27 - Ticket sales after Masses, and big lift day of event

Widow Support: Thursday Nights Ride to Nativity Support Group.

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. For 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.coella.86@gmail.com.

Widow Support: Thursday Nights Ride to Nativity Support Group.

Prayer Requests: Prayer requests will stay active for one month. Prayer update (health, location, contact, etc.) status is deeply appreciated. Send an updated request for continued support. <https://forms.gle/LiPCRmzfyRnYEU8s5>

Name Tags: If you have not received your name tag, email our Warden, Dan Thomas, at warden7992@nativityburke.org.

Nativity Ushers assist at collections: Volunteer for your Mass!

Volunteer on LinkTree to maintain a database of potential helpers!
Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies: We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. See info on 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 Murray Rupert at fn2996@vakofc.org.

**Nativity is a tithing community
 Giving back a portion of God's blessings in gratitude
 "Each day with one heart—we are the hands of Jesus"**

SAFETY ALERTS!!

NOTE about GROTTO FLOWERS PLACEMENT

For safety, landscape erosion, and maintenance reasons, we kindly ask that parishioners refrain from placing flowers, glass vases or plants on the upper ledge of the grotto where the Lady of Fatima statue sits. The Art & Environment Ministry will place artificial arrangements in safe, weighted pots flanking the statue during the Christmas and Easter seasons.

Come Join our Team



Arlington Diocese Teacher Job Fair

Saturday, March 21, 2026

9-11 AM

St. Bernadette Catholic School

7602 Old Keene Mill Road
Springfield, VA

Explore

website

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

job openings

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

application process

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

Register

2026 Office of Catholic Schools
Job Fair Registration



A special "Career Switcher" session will be held from 9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. to answer questions regarding qualifications to teach in the Diocese.

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



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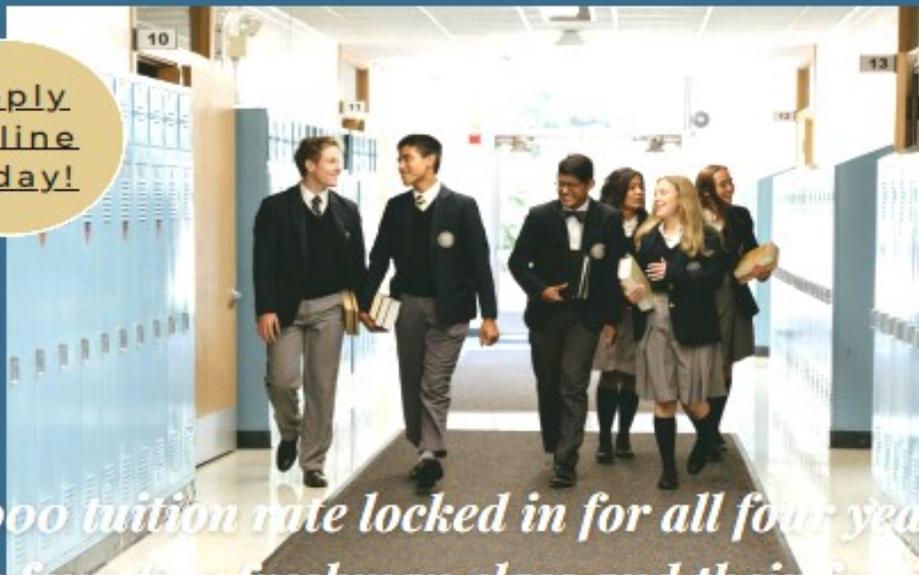
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THE 11TH
ANNUAL
NATIVITY
PARISH

GOLF TOURNAMENT



Monday May 18, 2026  Westfields Golf Club, Clifton, VA

TO BENEFIT YOUTH PROGRAMS AT

Nativity

Format: Scramble, Captain's Choice

Check-in: 6:45-7:30am

Shotgun Start: 8:00am

Fee: \$190 per player; \$760 per foursome

Includes: Breakfast, 18-holes of golf, cart, range balls, beverage cart tickets, lunch following play, awards ceremony

Awards: Winning Teams, Longest Drive,

Closest to the Pin, Hole in one contest and more!

Available: Mulligans, Raffle Prizes

Website: <https://nativityburke.org/golf/>

Contact: msinclair@nativityburke.org,
abenson@nativityburke.org

Deadline: May 15, 2026



Golfer Registration

Player Name

Phone #

Email

Player Name	Phone #	Email

Pay online: nativityparishgolf.com

Checks Payable to: Nativity Catholic Church (please indicate Golf Tournament on the memo line)

Send to: Nativity Catholic Church, 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA, 22015, Attn: Golf Tournament Committee



THE 11TH
ANNUAL
NATIVITY
PARISH

GOLF TOURNAMENT



Monday May 18, 2026  Westfields Golf Club, Clifton, VA

Corporate Sponsorship

Name: _____ Email: _____ Tel: _____

Company Name: _____ Address: _____

- Nativity Star Sponsor..... \$5,000
2 Complimentary Foursomes, 2 Mulligans, Sign on Course, Ad in Program, Recognition at Lunch/Awards Ceremony, Company Name/Logo on Monitors in Grill Room

- Nativity Birdie Sponsor..... \$4,000
1 Complimentary Foursome, 1 Mulligan, Sign on Course, Ad in Program, Recognition at Lunch/Awards Ceremony, Company Name/Logo on Monitors in Grill Room

- Angel Hat or Golf Cooler or Golf Ball Sponsor (circle one) \$3,000
1 Complimentary Foursome, Company Logo on cooler/Shirt/Golf Balls given to all participants, Ad in Program, Recognition at Lunch/Awards Ceremony, Company Name/Logo on Monitors in Grill Room

- Saint Program Sponsor..... \$2,000
1 Complimentary Foursome, Ad in Program, Recognition at Lunch/Awards Ceremony, Company Name/Logo on Monitors in Grill Room

- Miracle Lunch Sponsor..... \$1,500
2 Complimentary Golfers, Sign in Clubhouse, Ad in Program, Recognition at Lunch/Awards Ceremony, Company Name/Logo on Monitors in Grill Room

- Spirit Happy Hour Sponsor \$1,200
2 Complimentary Golfers, Sign in Clubhouse, 2 Complimentary Golfers, Sign in Clubhouse, Recognition in Program, Recognition at Lunch/Awards Ceremony

- Beverage Cart Sponsor..... \$750
Company Name on Cart, Recognition in Program, Recognition at Lunch/Awards Ceremony

- Hole in One Sponsor..... \$750
Company Name on Hole, Recognition in Program, Recognition at Lunch/Awards Ceremony

- Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive (circle one) \$500
Sign on Hole, Recognition in Program, Recognition by presentation to winners at Awards Ceremony

- Hole Sponsor..... \$200
Sign on Hole, Recognition in Program

Checks Payable to: Nativity Catholic Church (please indicate Golf Tournament on the memo line)

Send to: Nativity Catholic Church, 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA, 22015, Attn: Golf Tournament Committee

DE LA HERIDA A LA ALIANZA: UN VIAJE PROFÉTICO A TRAVÉS DE LA CUARESMA

PADRE JESÚS NAVARRETE

el retiro será el sábado 21 de
marzo en el Fr. Ready room,
de 9:00am a 1:00pm.

"Levántense y no teman."

Mateo 17:7



¿SERÁ QUE NOSOTROS NO VEMOS? IV Cuaresma Javier Leoz

El cuarto domingo de la Cuaresma incita a la alegría. Cuando Jesús es, además de agua viva, luz en el sendero, todo está abocado al optimismo, al entusiasmo. En definitiva, la proximidad de la Pascua, nos lleva a contemplar la luz que espera detrás del fracaso aparente de la cruz.

Todos los días, y no hay día que transcurra sin uno de ellos, ocurren pequeños milagros a nuestro alrededor. Alguien, con cierta razón, llegó a decir: “no hay motivos para no creer, todo lo que acontece por insignificante que sea, es inspiración divina”.

¿Que cuesta percibir la intervención de Dios, y su presencia, en todo aquello que hacemos, tocamos o somos? Puede ser. ¿Pero, no será que estamos más ciegos de lo que creemos y, que precisamente por eso, porque no vemos con nitidez, nos cuesta agradecer los dones, los regalos, los grandes o pequeños prodigios que Dios obra en nuestra vida, salud, trabajo, etc?

Estamos tan metidos en oscuridades y en problemas que, sin quererlo, todo ello se convierte en gigantescas cataratas que nos impiden ver, juzgar y actuar con claridad, a la luz de la fe, en los acontecimientos de nuestra existencia.

*El ciego de nacimiento, cuando vio, confesó públicamente lo que sus padres no se atrevían: el poder y la acción de Jesús. ¡Cómo vamos a confesar nosotros, la luz del Señor, si preferimos marchar por túneles que conducen al desencanto, al desenfreno fruto de nuestra ceguera espiritual!

*El ciego de nacimiento fue valiente. No le tembló el pulso a la hora de indicar la fuente de su luz; el causante de la recuperación de su visión: Jesús de Nazaret. Pero claro, el ciego, recuperó la vista. ¿No será que, nosotros, permanecemos en una constante ceguera o miopía espiritual que nos impide confesar la presencia de Jesús, su fuerza, su mano, su Palabra o su importancia en nuestras vidas?

*El ciego de nacimiento fue agradecido. No sabemos si era pobre o rico, alto o bajo, prudente o primario, abierto o cerrado. . . .lo que si sabemos es que, Jesús, le proporcionó aquello que más necesitaba: la luz. Nosotros, por el contrario, ¿qué pedimos a Dios? ¿Luz para conocer, o fuegos de artificio para disfrutar? ¿Comprender las cosas tal como son o maquillaje para observarlas según nuestro propio interés? ¿Encontrar a Dios en el día a día de nuestra vida o buscar explicaciones en la ciencia para dejarlo en la orilla?

Demos gracias a Dios, por supuesto, porque nuestros ojos contemplan las grandes o pobres maravillas del mundo. Pero, al hilo del evangelio de hoy, recordemos también que “no hay mayor ciego que aquel que no quiere ver”. Y aquí podemos estar nosotros: Cuando nos empeñamos en no sentir a Dios. Cuando vemos una cruz y no reflexionamos sobre la historia tan humana y tan divina que esconden sus dos maderos. Cuando escuchamos la Palabra de Dios y nos deja indiferentes y ciegos en lo nuestro. Cuando nos preguntan sobre nuestra fe y respondemos “eso es cosa de los curas, de la Iglesia, de los catequistas..”

El mundo cuanto más se aleje de Dios, más se acercará a su autodestrucción. Entre otras cosas porque la visión de Dios aporta las fuerzas y energías necesarias para trabajar a favor de la dignidad integral (no interesada) del ser humano. Y, entre otras cosas, porque un mundo autocomplaciente, egocéntrico y con cataratas espirituales lo único que hace es elegir el camino equivocado que le llevará a constantes y graves tropiezos.

Ser ciegos en el conocimiento de Jesús, de Dios, de su Palabra es una afección mucho más grave que ser ciegos para reconocer los colores.

¿Crees en mí? Nos pregunta Jesús en este domingo de la alegría. ¿Qué le contestamos? Empecemos por decirle: ¡Señor que te vea! ¡Y, luego, daré gracias por conocerte, por verte y por curarme de tantas dolencias que afectan a mi pensamiento, corazón, alma o espíritu! ¡Señor, que te vea! ¡Y, luego, dame la fuerza necesaria para defender tu señorío frente aquellos que dicen que, las cosas en la vida, ocurren por casualidad o por simple azar.

¿SOY CIEGO, SEÑOR?

Digo creer en Ti, y vivo como si no existieras

Pretendo caminar por tus sendas y no palpo tu presencia

Presumo de conocerte y apenas escucho tu Palabra

Digo que ¡nadie hay como Tú!

y tiemblo cuando las dificultades asoman

¿SERÉ ACASO CIEGO, SEÑOR?

Abro los ojos ante el mundo

y me cuesta decir que Tú lo mueves

Confieso que Tú eres la luz del mundo

y me escondo en oscuridades peligrosas

Rezo mirando al cielo

y a la vez me fio demasiado

de las decisiones del mundo

¿TENDRÉ CEGUERA ESPIRITUAL, SEÑOR?

Soy humano y, muchos días,

me considero exclusivamente divino

Soy pecador y, queriendo o sin querer,

me las doy de justo y honrado

Afirmo conocer todos los secretos

y, a mis ojos, se escapa lo esencial

Conozco la ciencia y la matemática

y no sé cómo encontrarte en mi vida

¿SERÉ CIEGO, SEÑOR?

Porque leo tu Palabra

y, pienso que es para los demás

Escucho tu Palabra

y creo que no va conmigo

Camino, subo y bajo, corro y avanzo

y me tropiezo a cada instante

dándome de bruces

contra mis propias ideas y pensamientos

¿CAMBIÁME, SEÑOR!

Mi naturaleza humana, para reconocerte

La forma de mirar para no perderte de vista

El ritmo en mi caminar para ir a tu lado

El ruido de mi existencia para escuchar tus

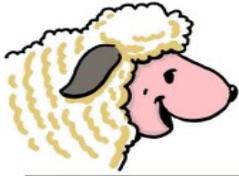
pisadas

Los nubarrones de mis pensamientos

para que Tú seas la luz de todo mi ser

¿ESTARÉ CIEGO, SEÑOR?

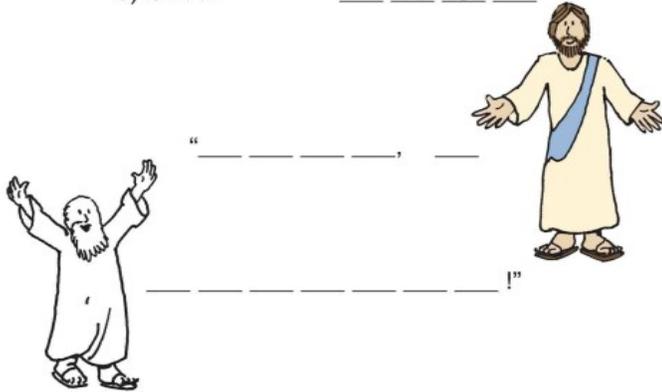
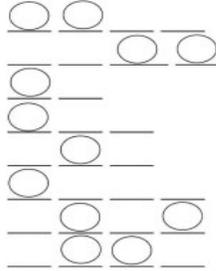
J.Leoz



Jesus asked the man who had been blind, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He asked, "Who is He?" Jesus told him, "I am He." What did the man say next?

Write the word that has the opposite meaning of the one given. Write the circled letters in order on the lines.

- 1) Quiet
- 2) Soft
- 3) Out
- 4) Good
- 5) Dry
- 6) Early
- 7) Take
- 8) Under



What did Jesus do?



Add and subtract letters to find the answer.
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

H+2 A+4 Q+2 T+1 P+3 V-3 N+2 H+1 S+1

N+1 M+1 R+2 G+1 B+3 F+1 Q+1 M+2 V-1 L+2 C+1

L+1 B-1 C+1 C+2 W-4 L+3 P-3 G-2

K+2 S+2 C+1 C-2 K+3 F-2 R-2 W-2 U-1

J-1 V-2 K+4 P-2 Q+3 F+2 I-4

J+3 F-5 Q-3 O+4 D+1 X+1 F-1 R+1 E+3 A+4

T-1 B-1 G+2 G-3 F+1 P-1 X-1 B-1 W-4 I-1

K-2 R-4 W-3 J-2 I-4 M+3 Q-2 R-3 L+0 M+2 D+2

Q+2 F+3 K+1 S-4 D-3 K+2 F+2 B+3 B+2 L-3 F-2

B-1 M+1 F-2 A+2 B-1 O-2 H-3 A+1 D-3 E-2 G+4

V-3 D+1 F-1 E+4 M+1 H-1



Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

March 15, 2026 • John 9:1-41

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

Jesus and His disciples met a man who had been blind since birth. The disciples asked if the man or his parents were being punished in this way for something they had done.



Find the underlined words of Jesus' answer in the puzzle below. They may be found ↓ ↑ → ← ↘ ↙ ↗ ↖.

Jesus said,
"This happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life."

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

What did the blind man say?



Use the Braille alphabet to read his words.

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

" _____

_____!"

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