3rd Standay



6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, Virginia 22015 nativityburke.org

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

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

Adrienne Swidal, Parish Secretary
Ann Benson, Business Manager
Carlos Gutierrez, Facility Manager
Cat Sands, Pastoral Minister
Maureen Andersen, Liturgical Minister
Johana Brown, Parish Receptionist
Anna Marty, Receptionist/Baptism Coordinator
Caroline Chase, Receptionist/Bulletin Editor
Ayse Kenner, Mass Intentions
Alison Fram, Director of Young Adult/College Ministry
Rebecca Judge, Director of Youth Ministry
Mary Castellano, Director of Social Media
Jennifer Sturgeon, Director of Marriage Enrichment/
Ecumenical Ministry

Carole Fischl, Co-director of Music Debbie Doyle, Co-director of Music Mai Tran, Traditional Choir Director Sara Prince, Youth Choir Director/Cornerstone Choir Natacha Hines, Gift Shop

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

Maria Kelly, Principal Richard Godwin, Assistant Principal Jen Behan, Preschool Director/Extended Care Director

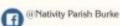
Shannon Murphy, Administrative Assistant/Registrar Kim Vu, Business Manager Mary Helen Chapman, School Secretary

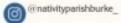
MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

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

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454 2415







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

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

7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass in Spanish 7:00 a.m./9:00 a.m./11:00 a.m./

1:00p.m./5:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES: 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday

12:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. on Saturday

HOLY DAY MASSES: As Announced

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

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

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

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

WEBMASTER: Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org SOCIAL MEDIA: Mary Castellano,

> socialmedia@nativityburke.org Assisted hearing devices are available from the Sacristy staff at all services.

A Message from our Pastor Fr. Bob Cilinski



"Were not our hearts burning within us?" - Luke 24:31

My dear parishioners,

We continue to rejoice in the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The church is alive because Christ is alive. We welcomed 22 new members into the Catholic Church at Nativity at Easter. They received the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

This past week we celebrated Confirmation of 212 of our teenagers with Arch Bishop Timothy Broglio. During the month of May, over 220 of our children will be receiving their First Communion. Yes, the Church is alive because Christ is alive and we see first hand the power of the Risen Lord in our midst.

On these Easter Sundays our celebration of Christ's resurrection continues as we reflect on the presence of the Risen Christ among us. The story of the disciples journey on the road to Emmaus is a clear reminder of how we are nourished by the Lord from two tables: the table of the word and the table of the Eucharist. Both actions lead us to the path of life. Recount the times when you experienced your heart burning within you as the Lord "opened up" the scriptures for you. Reflect on how you have been fed by the Lord at the Eucharistic table. Let us use this Easter Season to walk and journey together with Jesus. Happy travels to all.

Love and Easter Blessings,

En. Bul Cilling.

Fr. Bob Cilinski Pastor

The Importance of Sunday Mass

As the body will die without food, the soul will expire without nourishment. As Catholics, that spiritual nourishment comes at the Sunday Eucharist. The Lord's Day is essential for our faith. Make Sunday Mass the heart of your week.

KOVAR COLLECTION

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting for KOVAR after each Mass this weekend, April 22 and 23. Please consider donating. Knights will be at the back of the Church with baskets and can provide more information on KOVAR. New this year, you can donate on-line through Nativity's on-line giving platform - OSV. As it is new "Fund" it is at the bottom of the list of funds. You can also give via cash or check this weekend as you leave church.

On This Date in Nativity History *March* 1974 – *October* 1976

(Our thanks to Debbie Doyle for this text, and to Don Lemieux and Mary Castellano for the photos.)

During the parish's early years, music was provided entirely by volunteers and only on a sporadic basis. A choir could usually be assembled to sing during special Masses such as those at Christmas or New Years, but there was no permanent choir until much later. For example, the Bulletin for March 10, 1974, announced: "Easter Choir Now Forming. People who enjoy good music are asked to help form a choir to sing at the 9:00 a.m. Easter Mass. First meeting [March 14] at 7:30 at [Joe and Mary] Pettit's." By April a folk choir had been established but the bulletin of April 28 reminded parishioners that the choir "...is still in need of singers and musicians.'

One of the earliest parish handbooks, not dated but from about 1975, stated firmly that "music is a vital part of the celebration of the liturgy. At present we have people who volunteer to accompany the parishioners by playing the piano at various Masses. [One of these pianists was a parishioner from the St. Mary's period, Mary Pettit.] A folk group is continually being formed to meet the desires at one of the weekly Masses. Leaders of songs are most needed, as well as a continual need for musicians. At major feasts a choir is most desirable. We would like to see a permanent choir in the immediate future.

In the fall of 1976, the parish took a major step forward in its music program by hiring a professional music director. The October 17 bulletin announced: "SING TO THE LORD! Choir program to begin! Nativity Parish is pleased to announce and welcome Susan Smith, a graduate of Westminster Choir College as our new Music Director. She is organizing our choir program and would like to talk with interested parishioners. First rehearsal will be Wednesday, November 3rd, 7:30 pm at the Parish House.'

From these simple beginnings, music for Nativity Masses has evolved to comprise permanent choirs and cantors at all Masses, professional choir directors and pianists, assisted by many volunteer musicians, as these contemporary photos attest.



9.00am Mass, Dec. 2015 Photo by Don Lemieux



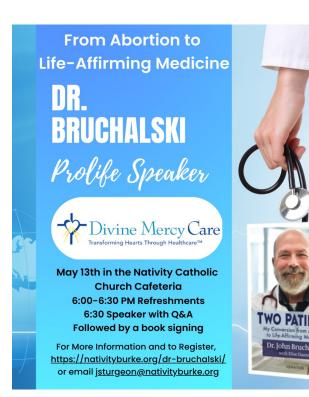
Choir at Spanish Mass, 2018

Photo by Mary Castellano



Christmas Eve Mass, 2021 Photo by Mary Castellano

This historical note is the 46th of a weekly Bulletin feature leading up to Nativity's fiftieth anniversary, 11 June 2023. If you have enjoyed this and other notes on Nativity history during the past ten months, you will want to own a copy of the parish history, entitled Nativity Parish, 1973 – 2023: A Faith Community's First Half Century. The book will be available for purchase during our fiftieth anniversary celebration this coming June.



Interpreters Needed for Our Mother of Mercy Free Clinic

MoM's mission is to provide free, quality healthcare to low-income individuals who are uninsured or under-insured in the Diocese. The majority speak Spanish. The Clinics are in need of Virtual Interpreters to help improve communication between the client and medical providers. All interpreting services will be remote via Zoom. Training provided. If you can help one 4-hour shift a month, please register here: http://bit.ly/VolunteerMotherofMercy.



Many thanks to our catechists, assistants, and everyone that was involved in our Confirmation Program. Thanks to your dedication and love, our students were ready to receive their sacrament this past Saturday.

To everyone involved in organizing the music, choirs, creating the Confirmation program, and Mass details. Thank you!

A special thank you to the Knights of Columbus. Every year the Knights provide our Confirmation students beautiful bibles, assist at the Confirmation Mass with their honor guard, provide cookies, and assist with the Confirmation reception.

With love and appreciation for all Sisters and staff!

Nativity's New Childcare Ministry

We are thrilled to introduce Nativity's new Childcare Minister, Mrs. Taylor Young. She will be responsible for childcare at various parish events where childcare is a blessing to families with young children. With great joy, Taylor received all the Sacraments of Initiation for the Catholic Faith at the Easter Vigil this year!

A native of Colorado, she moved to Virginia in 2012 to help her sister with her two small children while their father was deployed. Taylor loves working with kids of all ages, but preschool-aged children are her favorite. She currently works as an after-care coordinator at Prince of Peace Preschool. Taylor's hobbies include crocheting, spending time with family, and attending sporting events. She is excited about the future and cannot wait to start her journey with Nativity's Childcare Ministry. Taylor lives in Woodbridge with her husband, Matt, and their two-year-old son George. We will have one childcare ministry at Nativity to cover childcare for Walking With Purpose, the Young Family Ministry, Marriage Enrichment Ministry, and any other ministries or parish events where childcare is needed. All childcare providers will be VIRTUS compliant, and we will have one set of policies and procedures to follow.

If you would like to volunteer with the childcare ministry or be a lead childcare provider, please email Taylor at childcare@nativityburke.org.



YOUTH MINISTRY SUMMER CAMPS

TUESDAY, JUNE 27 - FRIDAY, JUNE 30



VACATION BIBLE CAMP

OPEN TO CURRENT K - 4 GRADERS 8:45am - 12pm | \$40 per camper



CAMP ON THE EDGE

OPEN TO CURRENT 5 - 8 GRADERS 1:30pm - 4:30pm | \$40 per camper



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

VBC: 8TH GRADERS - ADULTS
COTE: 10TH GRADERS - ADULTS
\$10 per volunteer to cover t-shirt fee



REGISTRATION

NOW OPEN! on the parish website



FEATURED AUCTION ITEM OF THE WEEK Your Child Is the Star of the Show! The special

birthday honoree and guests will have the run of the gym during a celebration that is perfectly choreographed and customized especially for your child. Winning bidder will receive a certificate for one (1) Grand Birthday Package at MyGym Burke! Includes 1.5 hours of nonstop fun, two (2) party specialists, up to 15 children (bday child is FREE!), paper goods, balloon decorations, special MyGym gift for birthday child and setup and cleanup.



2023 Spring Auction is OPEN for Bidding! Bid HIGH and OFTEN Everyday... Until April 29th!

You can bid on 100+ items, including some special instant buy ticketed events to a beer tasting at Bunnyman Brewing, Charcuterie Workshop at Nativity School and Ice Cream & Gaga Ball with Fr. Bresnahan. We have something for everyone! Purchase tickets to auction or register to bid at https://nativityauction.givesmart.com

- 4 Tickets Washington Spirit
- One Hour Assisted Stretch @ Massage Envy
- . KO Distilling Whiskey Basket
- NYC/Tribeca Film Festival Weekend (LIVE)
- Religious Education Registration for TWO!
- 3 classes @ Club Pilates Burke
- Ombre Brow Service
- Supercar Track Experience for TWO! (LIVE)
- 30-min Massage @ The Metta Center
- Intimate Austrian Wine Tasting at Trummer's (Ticketed Event)
- Box of Bundtinis Nothing Bundt Cake
- Round of Golf for 4 Springfield Golf & Country Club
- NIHCS Italian Baskets (TWO Available!)
- 2-Hr Private Tour @ Mount Vernon (LIVE)
- Lego Basket and STEM Baskets
- 1 Week of Arts & Drama Camp
- 10 Person Brewery Tour at Ono Brewery
- 1-Year of Lawn Care Treatment (LIVE)
- Reserved Pew & Parking 2023 Christmas Eve Mass
- "Taste of California Wines" Basket
- Paisano's \$50 Gift Card
- "Chips...Dips.....and Margaritas!" Basket
- Beer Tasting @ Bunnyman Brewing (Ticketed Event)
- Necklaces & Earrings
- \$1000 Orthodontic Services (LIVE)
- Dinner for FOUR Pupatella
- FIT4MOM 1-Month Class
- VBC/COTE Registration for TWO!
- Acrylic Pet Portrait
- Theater and Orchestra Tickets

DE SCAN ME

and MUCH, MUCH, MORE!

Raffle tickets for the class baskets and 50/50 drawing will take place after ALL Masses THIS weekend!

The classes have put together some amazing baskets, so check them out! Need not be present to win!

1 for \$10, 3 for \$25, 7 for \$50, 15 for \$100 Raffle Tickets are also available online at https://nativityschool.vraffle.org/ until April 27th



WANT TO HAVE A CINEMATIC EVENING OUT ON THE TOWN? JOIN THE NATIVITY ITALIAN HERITAGE & CULTURAL SOCIETY IN APRIL FOR AN ITALIAN MOVIE NIGHT. WE'LL SCREEN THE HILARIOUS ITALIAN FAMILY FILM "MOONSTRUCK, STARRING CHER AND NICOLAS CAGE.

WE'LL MUNCH ON POPCORN AND ENJOY A VARIETY OF SNACKS DURING THE MOVIE AND SOCIAL HOUR. JOIN YOUR FRIENDS FOR THIS FUN-FILLED EVENING. YOU DON'T NEED TO BRING ANYTHING BUT YOURSELVES. WE'LL PROVIDE THE SNACKS THIS MONTH. AS ALWAYS, GUESTS ARE WELCOME FOR \$5 GUEST FEE.

DATE: THURSDAY, APRIL 27

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: NATIVITY CINEMA (SCHOOL CAFETERIA)



A message from the Creation Care Ministry on Earth Day

Earth Day is a secular celebration that many faith communities have incorporated into their annual calendars for awareness and action. Friday, April 22, 2023, marked the 53rd anniversary of Earth Day--in honor of this occasion, let us pray: Creator God, As we feast our eyes on autumn reds and yellows, we sense your creative power. As we marvel at the uniqueness of each winter flake, we rejoice that you know us each by name. As we hear the songs of birds of spring, we yearn to sing your praises. As we breathe the delicious scents of summer flowers, our souls rest in your love. Forgiving God, We have not lived out our responsibility to be faithful stewards of creation. For this, we seek your pardon. Our over-consumption has impacted the poorest members of our human family most of all. For this, we ask your mercy. Our actions have endangered both the lives of our children today as well as those yet to be born. For this, we seek your forgiveness.

Living God, As we meet you in nature, inspire us to see anew our place in the web of life. In our daily lives, help us to make daily choices that reflect global solidarity. As we reflect on the teaching of our faith, equip us to advocate for laws and policies that reflect your call to faithful stewardship. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

(USCCB, World Day of Peace 2010)



TWO WORDS: "THE NATIVITY YARD SALE IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!"

During your annual spring clean-up and before tossing out your former "treasures", please consider storing them in a corner of your garage or basement for donation to the Annual Yard Sale. The Nativity Annual Yard Sale for Charity sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Father Vincent S. Sikora Council 7992, is Saturday, June 24, 2023. Collections will begin:

Thursday, June 15, 2023 and continue through Wednesday, June 21, 2023. Your donations are tax-deductible and sincerely appreciated.

STELLA MARINA COLLECTION

May 6 & 7

IN CONJUNCTION WITH OPERATION STARFISH WEEKEND, WE WILL BE COLLECTING DONATIONS OF THE FOLLOWING **NEW ITEMS ONLY** TO SUPPORT THE VILLAGE IN HONDURAS WHERE WE ARE BUILDING A NEW HEALTH CLINIC:

- Soccer Balls & Jump Ropes
- Dolls
- Coloring Books & Crayons
- School Supplies
- Vitamins for Kids
- Toothbrushes & Toothpaste
- Soap & Shampoo
- Combs & brushes
- Shaving Razors
- Deodorant
- Flip Flops
- Plastic Rosaries





FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL: meg@stellamarina.org

AT ALL MASSES IN THE NARTHEX Saturday, May 6 Sunday, May 7

Rosary Ministry - April Meeting

We heard the request of many of the parishioners for a teaching session on the weekend - so the Rosary Ministry will be meeting for those who cannot come during the week. Learn to make mission rosaries on Saturday, April 29th, from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM in the Fr Ready Room. We furnish all your supplies and will be happy to see you.

For the May Meeting: All rosary makers are invited to come on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, May 9th at 1:00PM in the Fr. Ready Room. May is our month to honor Our Blessed Mother. Come and make rosaries while we learn about some of the Marian devotions and chaplets.



For more information contact us at rosaryministry@nativityburke.org



MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, April 24th

7:30 am † Jack Charlebois

Tuesday, April 25th

7:30 am † Percy Lujan 12:00 pm † Joe Walsh

Wednesday, April 26th

7:30 am † Jenny Hatfield

10:00 am Special Int. for Jacqueline &

Sisters

Thursday, April 27th

7:30 am † Henrietta T. Critelli 12:00 pm † Gigi Hannah

Friday, April 28th

7:30 am † Joan Clark 9:00 am † Peter F. O'Connor

Saturday, April 29th

9:00 am † Gaston Laverdiere 5:00 pm † Mae Lamagna 7:00 pm Parishioners

Sunday, April 30th

7:00 am Parishioners
9:00 am † Lucrecia Vega
11:00 am † Sally Mernah
1:00 pm † Stanley Bishop

5:30 pm Spec. Int. for Bill & Janet Canavan

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

NEED TO TALK?

Catholic Charities provides quality mental health services & counselors grounded in a Catholic understanding of the human person. "Nativity's Counselor" Ms. Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC is back at Nativity counseling clients in-person and is available on Thursdays from 10:00am-6:00pm to talk with any parishioners who may be struggling.

To set up an appointment, please contact Marguerite at 703-454-2415 or mmturner@ccda.net.

Help Transform Lives by Donating Your Car

Help transform the lives of the poor and vulnerable by donating your used car, truck, motorcycle, RV, or boat, to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington. Your donation is tax deductible while supporting a cause that is near and dear to your heart. We'll arrange for the pickup of your vehicle donation at no cost to you. Please call 877-570-GIVE (4483) or visit https://ccda.careasy.org/home to complete our easy online form.









Nativity Religious Education Program

Needs volunteers for the 2023-2024 RE School year!

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

- Catechists
- Assistant Catechists
- Office Assistants
- · High School Catechist Assistants
- SPRED Volunteers
- Substitutes (catechists)

There is a 50% RE tuition discount for catechists for their year commitment.

TO SIGN-UP VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE

NATIVITYBURKE.ORG

- Select Religious Education Tab
- Select volunteers needed
- or scan the QR-Code that will take you our page.

It is a Diocesan and Parish requirement that we perform background checks on all our volunteers working with children.

Volunteers like you bring a little hope and leave a little sunshine everywhere they go.

For more information: nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org or 703-455-0372

The 2023 Bishop's Lenten Appeal

Thank you, Nativity parishioners, for your great support of our Bishop's Lenten Appeal.

As of April 13, our BLA pledges and one-time donations total \$686,211 with 996 households contributing. That's 16 percent of our total number of registered families who have donated. If you haven't participated in this year's campaign, there's still an opportunity. Check this link www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla or just scan the QR code. Your support greatly helps the many charities, ministries, and programs throughout the Diocese and so much right here at Nativity. Thank you once again and may God bless you for your sacrificial gift.



Practice High School Placement Test & Parent How to High School: Saturday, May 6, 2023 (8:30-11:45 am)

John Paul the Great High School is hosting the Pre-High School Placement Test (Pre-HSPT) for current 7th graders. The Pre-HSPT is optional, and is a practice test intended to help students become more familiar with the different sections of the HSPT under timed conditions. The practice test is designed to give the student an idea of how the exam will be administered and what to expect on the actual day of testing during the student's 8th grade year. Parents are invited to stay for Parent How to High School - a workshop on preparing your student for high school. To register for any of John Paul's 2023 Pre-HSPT offerings, please use these links: https://forms.gle/gtLeSru8zebN1AEW9 To pay: https://saintjohnpaul.mypaysimple.com/s/middle-school-event-registration. Please reach out by email or phone at admissions@jpthegreat.org and/or (703) 445-0246 with any questions.

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.

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

Give a Gift for Life

Please give a Gift for Life this season to help Project Rachel provide counseling and healing retreats to those who suffer the effects of abortion. One after-abortion care retreatant wrote: "I would have NEVER had the courage to show my face at this [abortion healing] retreat... God works in mysterious ways and by His grace, I found the courage to step forward in my faith. I am so grateful that this ministry exists and was there for me... without judgement when I was ready to tackle the deep-rooted pain in my heart. I am forever grateful!" For more information and/or to donate: www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife

The Associates of St. John Bosco undergraduate scholarship opportunity

The Associates of St. John Bosco is pleased to offer three \$4,000 scholarships and one \$6,000 scholarship (the Vincent T. Vaccaro Education Scholarship) to undergraduate students who demonstrate an intense desire to live out their faith on their college campus and who seek to serve the Church in some capacity after graduation. Freshman scholarship funding may continue into the next three years if certain criteria are met and, if funding is available, for potentially \$14,000 to \$20,000 in total scholarship funding! Please apply by

May 22 at asjb.org/scholarship-program

Catholic Home Missions Appeal Second Collection next weekend

The Appeal primarily supports home mission dioceses, that is, those dioceses in the United

States that are unable to offer their people the basic pastoral ministries of word, worship, and service without outside help. It may also give grants to other dioceses in the U.S. for particular projects, and to organizations and religious communities engaged in missionary work.

The Subcommittee funds a range of pastoral services. However, it principally focuses on (1) evangelization activities, (2) religious education, (3) ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers, and laypeople; (4) support of poor parishes across the country. Thank you for your support! For more information visit:

https://www.usccb.org/committees/catholic-home-missions

Church Of the Nativity Parish Yard Sale for Charity Saturday, June 24—8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

6398 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA No strollers during sale -- All sales final



Donations collected at the Nativity cafeteria/Fr. Martin Center (gym)

SEE REVERSE FOR ACCEPTABLE/NON-ACCEPTABLE ITEMS PLEASE—ALL DONATED ITEMS MUST BE IN GOOD CONDITION!

Drop-off Hours

Thursday/Friday, June 15-16	6:00 PM-9:00 PM
Saturday, June 17	9:00 AM-2:00 PM
Sunday, June 18	2:00 PM-5:00 PM
Monday, June 19	10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Monday 6/19-Wed. 6/21	6:00 PM-9:00 PM
Thursday/Friday, June 22-23	NO COLLECTIONS!

Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
6/15	6/16	6/17	6/18	6/19	6/20	6/21	6/22	6/23
6-9	6-9	9 AM	2 PM-	6-9	6-9	10 AM-	NO	NO
PM	PM	-2 PM	5 PM	PM	PM	4 PM;	drop-	drop-
						6-9 PM	offs!!	offs!!

For more information please call: Dave Zivich 703-598-0698 Tax receipts provided

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Fr. Vincent S. Sikora Council 7992

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Linens (clean)

Dishware/cookware/kitchen items

Clothing (clean; see non-acceptable list below)

Small appliances (working)

Electronics (working; see non-acceptable list below)

Sporting goods/ Toys/games

Furniture (clean/undamaged; see non-acceptable list below)

Books/DVDs/CDs

TVs-flat screen only!

Tools

Jewelry

NON-ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Undergarments (boxers/briefs/panties/bras, etc.)

Shoes/footwear

Medications/Cosmetics/Food

Computer desks

Unboxed Christmas trees

Computers/hardware/printers/network hardware

Metal desks/drawers/filing cabinets

Desks > 5-feet wide

Microwave ovens/Large appliances

Unframed mirrors/glass

Mattresses/beds/Sofa Beds

Pressboard furniture

Upholstered furniture

Rugs (any size)

Pianos/organs

Tires

Skis

Flammables

Motorized fitness equipment

Multi-function workout stations

China cabinets

ALL Entertainment centers

Furniture pick-up requests 703-598-0698 or davezivich@gmail.com

(First floor or walk-out level only!!)

Iglesia de la Natividad Venta de patio parroquial para caridad Sábado, 24 de junio—8:00 AM a 2:00 PM

6398 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA



Donaciones recogidas en la cafetería/Centro P. Martin (gimnasio)

VER REVERSO PARA ARTÍCULOS ACEPTABLES/NO ACEPTABLES POR FAVOR, ¡LOS ARTÍCULOS DEBEN ESTAR EN BUENAS CONDICIONES!

Horas de entrega

Jueves/Viernes, 15-16 de junio	6:00 PM-9:00 PM
Sábado, 17 de junio	9:00 AM-2:00 PM
Domingo 18 de junio	2:00 PM-5:00 PM
Lunes 19 de junio	10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Lunes 6/19-Mié 6/21	6:00 PM-9:00 PM
Jueves/Viernes, 22-23 de junio	SIN COLECCIONES!

Jueves	Vie	Sábado	Sol	Mi	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves	Vie
6/15	6/16	6/17	6/18	6/19	6/20	6/21	6/22	6/23
6-9	6-9	9 AM	2 PM-5	6-9	6-9	10 AM-	jjSIN	jjSIN
PM	PM	-2 PM	PM	PM	PM 4 PM;		drop-	drop-
						6-9 PM	offs!!	offs!!

Para obtener más información, llame al: Dave Zivich 703-598-0698

Recibos de impuestos proporcionados

Patrocinado por Knights of Columbus Fr. Vincent S. Sikora Council 7992

ARTICULOS ACEPTABLE

Ropa de cama (limpia)

Vajilla/utensilios de cocina/artículos de cocina

Ropa (limpia; consulte la lista no aceptable a continuación)

Pequeños electrodomésticos (en funcionamiento)

Electrónica (en funcionamiento; ver lista no aceptable)

Artículos deportivos/Juguetes/juegos

Muebles (limpios / sin daños; ver lista no aceptable)

Libros/DVDs/CDs

Televisores: ¡solo pantalla plana!

Herramientas

Joyería

ARTÍCULOS NO ACEPTABLES

Ropa interior (boxers/calzoncillos/bragas/sujetadores, etc.)

Zapatos/calzado

Medicamentos/Cosméticos/Alimentos

Escritorios de computadora

Árboles de Navidad sin caja

Computadora s / hardware / impresoras / hardware de red

Escritorios/cajones/archivadores metálicos

Escritorios > 5 pies de ancho

Hornos microondas/electrodomésticos grandes

Espejos/vidrio sin marco Colchones/camas/Sofás cama

Muebles de cartón prensado Muebles tapizados

Alfombras (cualquier tamaño)

Pianos/órganos Neumáticos

Esquís

Inflamables

Equipo de fitness motorizado

Estaciones de entrenamiento multifunción

Gabinetes de China

TODOS los centros de entretenimiento

Recogida de muebles 703-598-0698 or davezivich@gmail.com

(¡¡Solo en el primer piso o en el nivel de salida!!)



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

Linktree Universal Sign-up Link: Want to volunteer for an event? https://linktr.ee/fr sikora council 7992.

Culture of Life: Set aside Saturday, May 13 @ 6:00pm and then hold on to your seats as you hear Dr. Bruchalski reveal first-hand his witness of how the scales fell off his eyes as he was transformed from an abortionist to a preeminent pro-life OB/GYN through his encounters with a pregnancy support center, a morally upright neonatologist—and Mary and Jesus. Book signing, Nativity Father Martin Center.

Wives Appreciation Luncheon: Sunday, May 21, 2:00 PM at The Wine House. Wives' meal covered by the council. Knights buy your ticket on the linktree (\$63). Buy early, there are limited spaces available.

KOVAR: Collect funds to support people with intellectual disabilities. April 22 and 23 we will be collecting funds after each Mass. On April 29 we will be collecting at Safeway. Many hands needed! Signup on the linktree. This year we have also added the ability to donate through Nativity's on-line giving platform OSV. **Food for Others:** We need volunteers drivers for food distributions to the poor. If you have a truck or van and can occasionally help deliver to Springfield on Friday evenings contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com.

Yard Sale: This is the council's second biggest charity fundraiser! We need area leads and assistant leads to commit to supporting the collection period as well as the date of the sale June 15-24th. You don't have to be a Knight to help! Sign up on the linktree. Contact Br. Dave Zivich with any questions at davezivich@gmail.com.

Name Tags: Email Warden Michael Bender at michaelbambender@hotmail.com to order.

Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies: We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. Volunteer on the linktree.

Handy Knights Ministry: If you are unable to perform basic maintenance tasks or small repairs in your home due to health or other factors, call the "Handy Knights." You can reach us at handyknightsofnativity@gmail.com.

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

Calling all 3rd Degree Knights: The 4th Degree is calling you to participate in patriotic activities, color and honor guards and organizing programs that promote Catholic citizenship. Meetings 2nd Tuesday of the month; 7:30 pm rosary: 7:45 pm business meeting followed by fellowship.

JOIN THE NATIVITY SCHOOL STAFF!

Consider joining our School Staff as part of our Extended Care Team to help us provide After-School Care by contacting our Extended Care Director, Mrs. Jen Behan at (703) 455-2300, or jbehan@nativityschool.org. To assist us as a Lunch/Recess Monitor, or Substitute Teacher, please contact Rich Godwin at (703) 455-2300, or rgodwin@nativityschool.org.



TWO SPEAKERS, ONE SPECIAL AFTERNOON "Sinners and Saints" – Speakers Event Wednesday, May 3, 2023 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

All Nativity parishioners are invited to share an afternoon of meditation, conversation, and inspiration on this date. Two local people will speak at this event: our own Deacon Richard Kelly and Dawn Beutner, author of the book "Saints, Becoming an Image of Christ Every Day of the Year." In his Gospel, St. John describes the miracle in which Jesus cured a man blind from birth. The man gained not only physical sight but also spiritual sight. In contrast, the Pharisees, who had the gift of physical sight, refused to believe in the Christ who was before them. In his presentation, Deacon Kelly will talk to us about our own experience with spiritual blindness.

Dawn Beutner will speak about her new book, "The Leaven of the Saints," which has just been released. In this book, Dawn tried to gather holy men and women in bunches, like flowers, to help us better appreciate them. Dawn will have copies of her book available for sale and signing after her presentation. There will be an intermission between the speakers, during which refreshments will be served. This event is open to all Nativity parishioners. This speakers event, sponsored by Prime Time Single Catholics, will be held in the Fr. Ready room on Wednesday, May 3, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Prime Time Single Catholics is an area-wide social group for individuals 40 and over recognized by Bishop Burbidge.

Reservations are required. Please RSVP to ptscnva@gmail.com or call Linda at 703-913-7261 by 9:00p.m. on Sunday, April 30 if you plan to attend.

Struggling with addiction in the family?

Both the afflicted and affected don't need to be alone. There are many resources available including AA, NA, Alanon, Calix and a diocesan chaplain. Call the HELPLINE (970) 989-2670) for support. This is NOT LIMITED to addicts, anybody that would like to speak with a priest or a friend in Christ May call!





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

MOTHER'S DAY CARDS AND MASSES

A Novena of nine Masses will be said during the month of May for Mothers, living and deceased. Spiritual Bouquet cards may be found in the Church vestibule and Parish office starting next weekend. Mother's names will be placed on the Altar during the month of May.

Novena Masses

Sunday, May 14	7:00 AM
Sunday, May 14	1:00 PM
Sunday, May 14	5:30 PM
Monday, May 15	7:30 AM
Tuesday, May 16	7:30 AM
Thursday, May 18	7:30 AM
Friday, May 19	9:00 AM
Saturday, May 20	5:00 PM
Saturday, May 20	7:00 PM

Gifts for Seminarian Education Endowment Fund (SEEF)

Please support our seminarians and SEEF, a permanent endowment fund established in 2011. SEEF's income provides funding for annual seminarian expenses such as room, board, tuition, health insurance and books, which total almost \$45,000 per seminarian. Please give generously! To donate, make checks payable to: "Foundation for the CDA - SEEF." Mail to: The Foundation, 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203. Contact John French at john.french@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-3819 with any questions. Thank you!

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.

Parish App Feature-of-the-Week



- Thoughts on Catholic life
- Informative and inspirational
- · Simple insight for living a deeper faith everyday

Learn more or download our Inspiration parish app at myparishapp.com Daily

*Available on Apple and Android Phones.



Bring your documents to the Long & Foster office in Burke for FREE secure shredding. Community Event - all are welcome!

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023 9AM TO 12PM



NEW this year! We will also be collecting your donations for ECHO.

6045 Burke Centre Parkwy Burke, VA 22015 | 703-425-8000

LONG & FOSTER

Attention Parishioners

NATIVITY'S ANNUAL HOLY COMMUNION MASSES WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY, MAY 6TH AT 9:00AM AND 11:30AM.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THESE MASSES
WILL BE PRIMARILY FOR OUR
HOLY COMMUNICANTS AND THEIR
FAMILY & FRIENDS.

THE CHURCH & PARKING LOTS WILL BE VERY BUSY, PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE & UNDERSTANDING.



NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



Nativity Students Join In Lenten Journey

A retelling of the story of the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt, The Seder is a favorite Lenten tradition here at Nativity School. Filled with history, symbolism, and reverence, this story is drawn right from the Book of Exodus in The Hebrew Bible. Gathered together on Holy Thursday, we commemorate a Jewish ritual service and ceremonial meal held the first night or first two nights of Passover.

Each middle school student plays a part in its presentation: 8th grade provides and prepares the food; 7th grade sets the table, and 6th grade leads us in prayer, presents the readings, and directs the drama of the Coming of Elijah. Our 5th grade gets involved, too, by cleaning up afterward.







Upcoming Dates At-A-Glance!

April 24: 6th Grade Field Trip
April 26: 7th Grade Field Trip
April 26: Talent Show Auditions 3:00-4:30 p.m.
April 27: Talent Show Auditions 3:00-4:30 p.m.
April 28: Interims
April 29: PTO Auction
May 5: Mothers' High Tea
May 6: First Holy Communion
May 8-12: Teacher Appreciation Week

Join us at Nativity to see how your child would spend his/her days here -- learning, praying, sharing, loving, and laughing. Yes, Catholic education is worth the investment!

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

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

John Paul the Great Summer Camps June - August 2023
JP Summer Camps registration is now open! Sign your elementary

and middle school-age children up for a variety of athletic and enrichment camps during the summer months. For registration visit:

https://www.jpthegreat.org/apps/pages/summeractivities

YOUTH MINISTRY

cym@nativityburke.org

LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12

Sundays | 6:30-8:30pm



Dinner

Fellowship

Prayer & Formation

2023 HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUPS

Girls: Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30pm | Weekly Guys: Thursdays, 7:30-9:00pm | 2x / month

EDGE: GRADES 6-8

Alternating Sundays 3:30-5pm & Fridays 7-8:30pm See website for schedule Meet new friends

Play games

Explore your faith

8TH GRADERS - JOIN US AT LIFE TEEN ON APRIL 30!

All 8th graders are invited to join us at Life Teen on Sunday, April 30 from 6:30-8:30pm. Come check out what ministry will look like next year in high school! We begin with dinner at 6:30pm.



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

Associates of St. John Bosco Parent Night

The college campus has become increasingly difficult for young people of faith, especially young Catholics. But just how much are secularism and worldliness vying for the souls of our young people? Come join the Associates of St. John Bosco at "Parents Prepared: What's Around the Corner for Your Child Going to College" in order to learn just what's going on on the college campus and steps you can take as a parent to ensure your child has a faithful college experience for the next four years. This event will take place on May 2, 2023 at 7:00PM at the Lyceum at the Basilica of St. Mary. To register for free, please visit: https://www.asjb.org/parents-prepared.





PVI Theatre Camp

June 19 – 23, 2023 (Monday – Friday) 9 a.m. – noon

For rising 7th-9th graders

Cost:

\$150 per student, if registered by May 1 \$180 per student, after May 2

Register using QR code. Contact Mrs. Kathy d'Alelio kdalelio@paulvi.net or call 703-352-0925 x0622



St. Paul VI Catholic High School 42341 Braddock Rd, Chantilly, VA 20152



16th Annual "Pops Camp" For rising 7th-9th graders

Monday - Friday, August 7-11, 2023 Friday - 11 a.m. concert/potluck

For rising 7th, 8th or 9th instrumentalists with at least one year of instruction.

- Jazz Studies \$50: 8:30 9:30 a.m. Quite popular secondary offering that introduces improvisational techniques while preparing music for concert.
- Pops \$100: 9:45 a.m. 12:15 p.m. Daily itinerary includes full group and sectional rehearsals plus snack.

Register using the QR code. Questions? Contact Mrs. Jan Siegfried at jsiegfried@paulvi.net





St. Paul VI Catholic High School 42341 Braddock Rd, Chantilly, VA 20152











WORKCAMP 2023

CONTRACTORS NEEDED

WorkCamp is a week-long service opportunity for youth of our Parish to serve those in need throughout the Diocese. We are seeking people with home repair and maintenance skills who are willing to commit some of their time and talents to teaching young people and improving the lives of fellow Virginians in need.









DECKS, RAMPS, WINDOWS, FLOORING, ROOFS & MORE
NO PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

JUNE 19-22 IN WINCHESTER, VA

To volunteer, contact your Parish Stakeholder or Director of Youth Ministry!

Visit arlingtondiocese.org/workcamp for more info.

Good News INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

3rd Sunday of Easter

Sunday April 23

Acts 2:14,22-33 Ps 16:1-2,5,7-11 1 Peter 1:17-21 Luke 24:13-35

Monday April 24

Acts 6:8-15 Ps 119:23-24,26-27,29-30 John 6:22-29

Tuesday April 25 St. Mark

1 Peter 5:5b-14 Ps 89:2-3,6-7,16-17 Mark 16:15-20

Wednesday April 26

Acts 8:1b-8 Ps 66:1-3a,4-7a John 6:35-40

Thursday April 27

Acts 8:26-40 Ps 66:8-9,16-17,20 John 6:44-51

Friday April 28

Acts 9:1-20 Ps 117:1bc,2 John 6:52-59

Saturday April 29 St. Catherine of Siena

Acts 9:31-42 Ps 116:12-17 John 6:60-69 The two disciples of today's Gospel reading did not recognize Jesus until after they heard him explain the scriptures and then broke bread

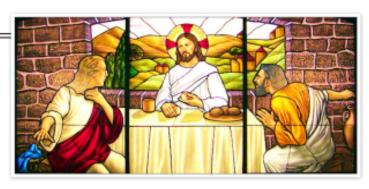
with him. It was a two-part process. First, while listening to him teach about the scriptures, only their hearts recognized him. ("Were not our hearts burning within us?") Their eyes didn't see his true identity until Jesus shared a meal with them, raised the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them to eat.

When we celebrate Mass today, we're on a similar journey with Jesus. First, we have the Liturgy of the Word, during which we hear the scriptures and a homily that explains them. This is a time of opening our hearts to him.

A well-trained reader will speak the words of scripture with meaning and emphasis so that our hearts can recognize God in the words. A well-trained priest or deacon will set our hearts on fire as if Jesus himself were teaching us the meaning of the scriptures. But even when the reader

or homilist does a poor job, we can open our hearts to hear Jesus speaking to us directly.

Then we move into the Liturgy of the Eucharist. When the presiding priest consecrates the bread and wine, it is Jesus himself who is actually doing it, using the priest's hands and vocal chords. Jesus is doing for us what he did for those two disciples at Emmaus.



If we have opened our hearts to Jesus during the first part of Mass, and if we are still paying attention, we see more than a piece of bread and a chalice of wine. We see Jesus. We recognize him with our hearts and our heads. We know beyond all doubt that the resurrected Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist.

Reflect & Discuss:

- In what area(s) of your life does Jesus seem to be absent? How can the Mass help you recognize Jesus and feel his closeness?
- T What else can you do to discover the presence of Jesus when you are not able to sense his nearness?
- T When did you first discover that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist? What helped you with that discovery?
 - How do you know that the bread and wine change into the substance of Jesus while retaining their original form (which is called "transubstantiation")?
- How easy is it for you to recognize Jesus in the Eucharist? Why?



COLLEGE NIGHTS

Bridging the Gap of Faith



Peer connections Small

June 28: St. Mark's

July 5: St. Michael's

July 12: Holy Trinity (NEW location!)

July 19: Basilica of St. Mary July 26: Holy Cross Academy All rising college freshmen and transfer students may register for FREE at ASJB.org. All events begin at 7PM.



JP DRAMA & Fine Arts Department Present the 2023 Spring Musical





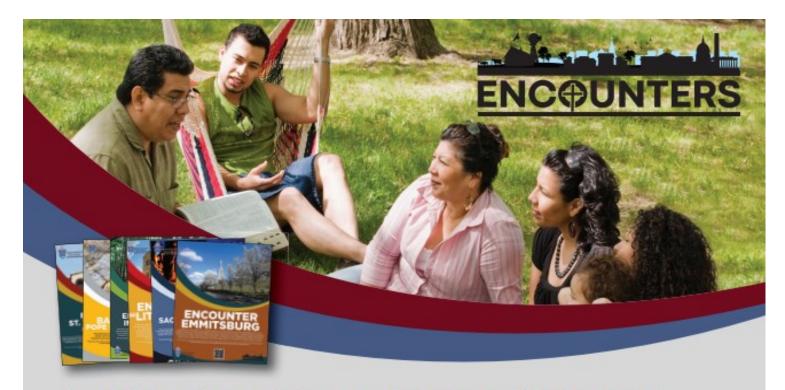
Book and Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
Based on the play "Green Grow the Lilacs" by Lynn Riggs
Original Choreography by Agnes de Mille

SHOWTIMES:

APRIL 28TH, 7PM APRIL 29TH, 7PM APRIL 30TH, 2PM







Parents! Get your teens off their screens and safely back out into the real world!

Encounters are designed to be family-friendly faith-based activities and day trips which can safely take place in the midst of the pandemic. Each Encounter is designed for families or small groups to deepen their faith by experiencing the rich Catholic history found through local sites, shrines, and natural settings in and around our Diocese. Turn off their screen and get back out into the world to Encounter the faith with your family!

iPadres! iApague las pantallas de sus hijos y regresen con seguridad al mundo!

Los Encuentros son actividades para familias basadas en la fe y excursiones de un día que pueden suceder de manera segura incluso en medio de la pandemia. Cada Encuentro está diseñado para que las familias o grupos pequeños puedan profundizar su fe al experimentar la rica historia católica que se encuentra a través de sitios locales, santuarios, y entornos naturales dentro y alrededor de nuestra Diócesis. ¡Apague las pantallas de sus hijos y regrese al mundo para Encontrar la fe con su familia!









Afterward, they found the disciples and said, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Where were the men when they met the disciples?

First, in each line, unscramble 5 of the 6 letters to answer the definition. Then, write the one letter that remains on the line below.



Children's Worship Bulletin

Ages 7+

April 23, 2023 • Luke 24:13-35

recognized

On the Road to Emmaus

After Jesus rose from the dead, 2 of His followers were going to a village called Emmaus. What happened along the way?

Lead the followers through the maze to Emmaus and read the words along the correct path.

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ICMRH

What happened next?

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Le 24, 13-35 EL TERCER DOMINGO DE PASCUA CICLO A

El Tiempo Pascual que estamos viviendo nos anuncia de manera particular el paso de la muerte a la vida, que significa que las cadenas internas del hombre que lo tienen como maniatado en una realidad de sufrimiento y tristeza, y muchas veces en la debilidad a la cual se encuentra sometido. El evento de Cristo vencedor de la muerte anuncia a todo hombre que cree en él, que las cadenas son rotas y que el vacío profundo de la vida es colmado por el gozo de saber que en la fidelidad de Dios, en el Cristo Resucitado, nuestra vida es recreada. Estos días, en los cuales la liturgia de la Iglesia, de manera particular, resalta este acontecimiento, nos invitan al mismo tiempo a que podamos ser actores activos en este Tiempo Pascual y no porque dependa de nosotros, sino en el sentido que así como el pueblo de Israel cuando salió del país de Egipto al sonido del cuerno salieron de la esclavitud; de la misma manera nosotros al canto del Gloria, en la santa noche de la Vigilia Pascual, hemos sido llamados a entrar en la Pascua del Señor Resucitado. Porque somos llamados a pasar de las tinieblas a la luz, de la enemistad a la amistad, del desamor al amor, de la ofensa al perdón, del juicio a la misericordia; como Cristo hizo con el buen ladrón: "...te aseguro que hoy estarás conmigo en el Paraíso...". Y así, como en el evangelio de Juan, ante la incredulidad de Tomás, Jesús no lo deja en su estado de confusión, sino que cura su incredulidad; esto es la Pascua, el poder creer y reconocer al Cristo Señor de la muerte y de la vida, por la acción y el don de Dios a través de la Iglesia.

En la primera lectura, Pedro invita a escuchar a la gente el anuncio de la Buena Noticia del Evangelio, paralelamente tenemos otro texto en el libro de Nehemías en el cual se nos narra, que cuando el pueblo retornó del exilio, Dios renueva su alianza con el pueblo. En este sentido, ya la primera lectura nos introduce en una actitud de acción de gracias, porque a través de San Pedro, Dios está diciéndonos y nos está llamando a una vida de reconciliación, y es indudable que no puede haber reconciliación si el hombre no sale y se despoja de su vida pecaminosa, de una vida que no es de acuerdo a la voluntad de Dios. Por eso san Pedro, en otro texto que antecede a esta perícopa dirá: "...hermanos pecasteis por ignorancia...", porque el hombre encerrado en sí mismo no puede ver la luz que viene de Dios y por lo tanto, creyendo que obra y se encamina hacia el bien, tantas veces sólo se destruye a sí mismo. En el libro del Deuteronomio, Dios a través de Moisés invita a su pueblo a escuchar: "...escucha Israel amarás al Señor tu Dios con todo el corazón, con toda tu alma, con todas tus fuerzas..."; esto está significando para nosotros que en el escuchar y aceptar la Buena Nueva del Evangelio, escuchamos a Cristo Resucitado en nuestro corazón y creemos que en este acontecimiento de salvación está la vida que viene de Dios, que nos hace partícipes de una vida plena.

La condescendencia de Dios en este evento Pascual queda de una manera manifiesta, que no ha tenido medida alguna, pues el evangelio de este presente domingo narra que Cristo se acerca a estos dos discípulos que van desesperanzados por el camino, está expresando el sentido de la vida humana, que el hombre por más que se esfuerce en querer y buscar la verdad no la llegará a encontrar plenamente. No estamos negando que el hombre pueda intuir el camino de la verdad, pero abrazarla como una certeza, es un don que Dios concede al hombre. Así lo expresa el evangelio, en versículos más adelante, cuando Cristo sentado a la mesa tomó el pan y al partirlo: "...se les abrieron los ojos y reconocieron al Señor...". No vamos a detenernos en detalles, pero el sentido de los milagros que Cristo realizó durante su vida pública, curando a los ciegos, estaba anticipando proféticamente esta verdad: que sólo a través de Cristo, el Dios que se ha encarnado y ha entrado en la historia de la humanidad, sólo a través de Él podremos entrar en la certeza de la verdad de Dios, que a la vez lleva al hombre a la vida misma.

La reacción de los discípulos (de Emaús), como narra el evangelista san Juan, es de regresar donde sus hermanos a Jerusalén, porque ya no tenían duda en su corazón ni tristeza, porque la certeza del Cristo Resucitado iluminaba los ojos de su corazón; porque Cristo se deja reconocer por ellos. Dios que está presente en la historia de los hombres y de la humanidad, se deja reconocer por nosotros a través de los acontecimientos de nuestra vida, pero tantas veces por nuestra poca fe no lo reconocemos a Dios presente. La vida del creyente, según san Juan, nos está expresando a través de este texto del evangelio, que es llamada a ser de testimonio, o sea el cristiano está llamado a que su vida sea un anuncio de que Dios está presente entre nosotros.

La vida de la Iglesia está centrada en la escucha de la Palabra del Maestro, para caminar con fidelidad, y reconocerlo cada vez en la fracción del pan. Es decir, cada vez que celebramos el misterio de nuestra fe, se realiza el Memorial de nuestra salvación, se hace presente sacramentalmente Cristo en el caminar de nuestra vida, y por eso debemos estar atentos a que los ritos que comprenden la liturgia eucarística y que nos ayudan a entrar en el misterio, no se conviertan en una rutina para nosotros, sino en medio que tenemos para encontrarnos y celebrar a Cristo Resucitado. Esto es lo que nuestro querido y ahora difunto Papa Juan Pablo II nos ha legado en todo el ministerio de su Pontificado, siendo un heraldo y mensajero del Evangelio. Del año 1998 hasta el 2004 nos ha dejado seis documentos con respecto a la celebración Eucarística, porque aquí está el nutrimento de nuestra fe. Y como un testamento último de su vida espiritual, que ha avivado su vida como creyente y sobre todo su vida ministerial, ha estado expresada la Carta que ha dirigido a todos los sacerdotes el Jueves Santo de este año. Entonces, así como los discípulos de Emaús reconocieron al Señor en la fracción del pan, ministros de la Iglesia y fieles laicos estamos llamados a reconocer al Señor en la fracción del pan y a celebrar su fidelidad en nuestra vida; de esta manera transformarnos en testigos del Evangelio para la humanidad como Cristo. San Pablo dice al respecto: "...ya no soy yo, es Cristo quien vive en mí..."

Recemos como Iglesia para que nuestro Padre del Cielo acoja en su seno a nuestro querido y ahora difunto Papa Juan Pablo II. Pbro. Oscar Balcazar Balcazar. Rector Seminario Diocesano "Corazon de Cristo", Diócesis del Callao - Perú Pascua: 50 días para cantar ¡Aleluya! Reflexiones Pascua El grito que invita una y otra vez a alabar y dar gracias al Señor, porque es eterna su misericordia.



Por: P. Fernando Pascual LC | Fuente: Catholic.net En la noche, una llama vacilante. El sacerdote y la gente enciendieron sus velas. La luz se expandió. Las tinieblas retroceden. La procesión avanzó hacia el altar. La iglesia se llenó de resplandor. La Iglesia celebra la Pascua.

La Vigilia Pascual tiene un encanto mágico. Nos presenta el evento más importante de la historia humana: Cristo ha resucitado y vive para siempre.

El mundo, aparentemente, sigue su marcha, monótona o entusiasta, entre alegrías y penas. Pero quien se deja tocar por la gran Noticia sabe que la muerte ha sido vencida, que el pecado no es la última palabra de la historia, que el perdón ha cancelado la condena.

Sabemos, por los Evangelios, que Cristo se apareció a sus seguidores durante 40 días y luego ascendió a los cielos. Pasados 10 días, los primeros discípulos recibieron el Espíritu Santo.

La Iglesia celebra este acontecimiento con 50 días de fiesta, de canto, de esperanza. Es el tiempo del "aleluya", del grito que invita una y otra vez a alabar y dar gracias al Señor, "porque es eterna su misericordia".

El Papa Benedicto XVI lo explicaba con estas palabras: "El tercer gran símbolo de la Vigilia Pascual es de naturaleza singular, y concierne al hombre mismo. Es el cantar el canto nuevo, el aleluya. Cuando un hombre experimenta una gran alegría, no puede guardársela para sí mismo. Tiene que expresarla, transmitirla. Pero, ¿qué sucede cuando el hombre se ve alcanzado por la luz de la resurrección y, de este modo, entra en contacto con la Vida misma, con la Verdad y con el Amor? Simplemente, que no basta hablar de ello. Hablar no es suficiente. Tiene que cantar" (Vigilia Pascual, 11 de abril de 2009).

Tenemos ante nosotros 50 días de aleluya. Es la Pascua, el paso, la victoria del Señor. De corazón, desde la esperanza que ilumina toda la vida humana, ¡felices pascuas!

3º Domingo de Pascua - A Evangelio de la Misa: Luc 24,13-35 -Camino de Emaus

Entrañable escena la que relata el Evangelio de la Misa. Unos apóstoles apenados, hundidos y apesad-umbrados, por lo ocurrido días atrás en Jerusalén: la Muerte de su Maestro. Aún no creían lo que ya se rumoreaba: que Jesús había resucitado. El se les hace el encontradizo cuando se dirigían a la aldea de Emaus, y aunque no le reconocen de momento, a medida que les va hablando se van entusiasmando con aquel personaje que tán bien conoce e interpreta las Escrituras. Por fin le reconocen cuando, sentados a la mesa para cenar juntos, Jesús muestra su personalidad bendiciendo, o consagrando el pan como la había hecho en la Ultima Cena.

Oración para cada día de la semana

Señor, que te mostraste resucitado a los apóstoles cuando iban camino de Emaus. Yo también siento muchas veces dudas y dificultades en mi fe, y sobre todo a la hora de cumplir las consecuencias prácticas de la fe en mi vida.

Unas veces son las dificultades del ambiente que me rodea, y otras es mi pereza y mi soberbia, que me dominan. Te pido, Señor, la humildad suficiente para escucharte y aprender de Ti, leyendo y meditando el Evangelio, y escuchando a tus pastores en la Iglesia, que hablan y enseñan en tu nombre.

Viniste a la tierra, Señor, para salvar a todos los hombres, y a todos quieres abrirles el tesoro de tus enseñanzas. Quiero disfrutar de tu mensaje salvador. Solo en él se encuentra la auténtica alegría, y el verdadero sentido de la vida. Quiero testimoniarlo y difundirlo. Quiero ser apóstol de tu mensaje de salvación. Precisamente los Apóstoles te reconocieron al partir el pan, cuando hiciste realidad la Eucaristía, que ellos ya habían vivido, y "saboreado" en la Ultima Cena.

Que participe, Señor, frecuentemente en la Eucaristía, o Santa Misa con la alegría de un encuentro amoroso contigo, y con la fe y devoción de quien desea intimar con el Dios-Amor, y alimentarse con el verdadero pan de vida, que enciende los corazones, para mirar a las altas metas de la santidad personal.

Señor aumenta mi amor a la Eucaristía: a celebrarla con fe en la Santa Misa, a recibirla con profunda devoción en la Comunión, y a adorarla con respeto y agradecimiento en el Sagrario.

Padre Segismundo Fernandez Rodríguez

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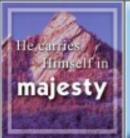


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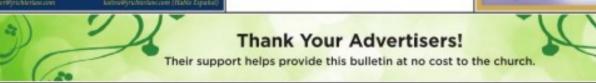
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