

# The Good Shepherd



*A Good Shepherd  
lays down  
his life for  
the sheep.*

©Diocesan  
Jesus as Good Shepherd  
Josef Kastner, 1956-1911



**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**  
**DEC. SEAN MAZARY**

#### **SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:**

Adrienne Swidal, Parish Secretary  
Ann Benson, Business Manager  
Carlos Gutierrez, Facility Manager  
Cat Sands, Pastoral Minister  
Karla Camino, Sacristan  
Johana Brown, Parish Receptionist  
Diane Dellen, Receptionist/Baptism Coordinator  
Caroline Chase, Receptionist/Bulletin Editor  
Ana Gonzalez, Offertory/Mass Intentions  
Charlie Gutierrez, Evening Receptionist  
Patricia Pagoada, Director Family Ministry/Social Action  
Tracey Hulen, Disability Inclusion Coordinator  
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  
mmturner@ccdca.net



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

**SUNDAY MASSES:** 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass  
7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass in Spanish  
7:00 a.m./9:00 a.m./11:00 a.m./  
1:00 p.m./5:30 p.m.  
Monthly Sensory Mass on the  
second Sunday of every month at  
the 1:00pm 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:**  
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**SOCIAL MEDIA:**  
Mary Castellano, [socialmedia@nativityburke.org](mailto:socialmedia@nativityburke.org)

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

**A Message from our Pastor  
Msgr. Bob Cilinski**



*“The Lord is my shepherd. He guides me in right paths”  
~ Ps 23:3*

My dear parishioners,

Alleluia! Our celebration of Easter continues. Easter is a season that lasts fifty days and we should take advantage of every day to celebrate. During the Easter season our scripture readings draw our attention to appearances of Jesus after His resurrection, the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd, and His promise to send the Holy Spirit as His enduring presence and source of animation in the Church.

During the Easter season we will celebrate the First Communion of so many of our children in May; and we will remember the birthday of the church at Pentecost. Alleluia. Let us rejoice! Our celebration of Easter continues!

On this Good Shepherd Sunday, the words of Pope Francis in His inaugural Mass on March 19th 2013, reminds us to be “protectors” of those entrusted to us.

*“The vocation of being a ‘protector’, however, is not just something involving us Christians alone; it also has a prior dimension which is simply human, involving everyone. It means protecting all creation, the beauty of the created world, as the Book of Genesis tells us and as Saint Francis of Assisi showed us. It means respecting each of God’s creatures and respecting the environment in which we live. It means protecting people, showing loving concern for each and every person, especially children, the elderly, those in need, who are often the last we think about. It means caring for one another in our families... It means building sincere friendships in which we protect one another in trust, respect, and goodness. In the end, everything has been entrusted to our protection, and all of us are responsible for it.”*

We are all called to be Good Shepherds. Happy 4th week of Easter!

Love and Blessings,  
Msgr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

**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. Mother’s names will be placed on the Altar.

**Novena Masses**

Sunday, May 10	11:00 AM
Monday, May 11	7:30 AM
Tuesday, May 12	12:00 PM
Wednesday, May 13	7:30 AM
Thursday, May 14	7:30 AM
Saturday, May 16	7:00 PM
Sunday, May 17	5:30 PM
Monday, May 18	7:30 AM

**JESUS OUR HEALER: MASS & HEALING SERVICE AT NATIVITY CHURCH**

The Arlington Diocese Catholic Healing Ministry invites you and your family to our monthly Mass and Healing Service at Nativity Church in Burke.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 28  
7:30 PM**

- Celebrant: Fr. John Melmer
- Assisting: Fr. Tuck Grinnell & Deacon Leo Flynn
- Music by the New Spirit Singers begins at 7:20 PM

**CONFESSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE, WITH HEALING PRAYERS FOLLOWING MASS AT 8:30 PM**



*thank you*

**From the Religious Education Program**

A sincere thank you to all Confirmation catechists and assistant catechists. Your dedication, patience, love, and support have guided our students throughout this journey. The students were able to complete this important step in their faith formation because of your commitment. Thank you for planting the seed, nurturing their growth, and creating a meaningful and lasting impact in their lives

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Knights of Columbus for their generous and unwavering support of our Confirmation program and students. Through their kindness, our students were gifted Bibles to guide them in their faith journey, and their presence at the Confirmation Mass serving as Honor Guards. They also graciously hosted our Confirmation Reception, warmly serving cookies and creating a welcoming space for our families to gather and celebrate this special milestone. We are deeply thankful for their continued commitment to our parish community and for the care they show to our students as they grow in faith. Their support truly makes a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve.

With gratitude,

*Sister Donatella, Sister Mary Attilia and all the RE Staff*

### World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Today the Church throughout the world prays for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for vocations to the priesthood and religious life? Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead. Encourage your children, grandchildren, or other young people to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister. Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.

### NO HANDS BUT YOURS MINISTRY



The No Hands But Yours (NHBY) Ministry is an original Nativity Ministry doing God's work by serving those less fortunate members of His flock. NHBY works distributing food, clothing, & personal items to the poor & homeless in DC & NoVA 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 continue to grow through our Nativity community and other ecumenical communities. Now with over 100 members!

For more details on the NHBY Ministry you can visit the Nativity Parish website and under the Ministry tab, select No Hands But Yours. We also have a Signup Genius where you can access specifics along with our schedule where you can volunteer to assist. Families are also always welcomed!

Monetary donations are also accepted via the Nativity Catholic Church Donation Page. If you have interest in learning more please contact John Rubino at john.albert.rubino@gmail.com.



### 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 27, 2026. Collections will begin Thursday, June 18, 2026 and continue through Wednesday June 24, 2026. Your donations are tax-deductible and sincerely appreciated.



Looking for a meaningful way to give back to our parish community? Become a catechist volunteer and help nurture the faith and growth of our children. Your time and guidance can make a lasting difference in their lives.

## VOLUNTEER CATECHIST NEEDED

### FOR OUR UPCOMING 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR!

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

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

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

To sign up, please visit our website: <https://nativityburke.org/re/volunteer> or scan the QR-Code



[nativityburke.org](https://nativityburke.org)

*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

OPEN TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND GUESTS  
TICKETS AVAILABLE AFTER ALL MASSES:  
APRIL 25-26, AND MAY 2-3

TICKETS: \$45/PERSON.  
\$48.00 IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD

SEATING IS LIMITED, RESERVE EARLY TO SIP, SAVOR, AND CELEBRATE IN BLOOM! PERFECT FOR A MOTHER'S DAY TREAT!

Special Feature: 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](mailto:kdelatte65@gmail.com)

SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

Strengthening the Church at Home

Second Collection THIS Weekend

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops | CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS

**ECHO Collection NEXT weekend, May 2/3  
Food Room Most Needed Items**

Thank you for including ECHO Food Room needs on your shopping list. The USDA calculates that a meal for one persons is considered to be 1.2 pounds of food. Thus far this fiscal year ECHO has distributed 288,560 pounds of food which converts to 240,466 meals given to our neighbors in Burke and Springfield. Thank you donors for your generosity in helping our neighbors. Your help is greatly appreciated. We collected 842 lbs on the weekend of March 28/29.

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

*Bag Beans (black, red or garbanzo beans preferred), Lentils, Canned Fruit, Cereal/Oatmeal (low sugar), Can Tomatoes, Tomato paste, Canned Milk, Shelf stable milk, Hot Chocolate, Snacks (Crackers, raisins, granola bars, dry fruit, nuts, etc.) Baked Beans, Coffee (Instant and Ground), Honey, Pancake Syrup, Cooking Oil, Non-salt spices, Masa Corn Flour, Granulated Sugar, Lemon or Lime Juice, Tortillas, Condiments, Mac and Cheese, Canned Meat, Paper bags, Newspaper plastic sleeves, Paper boxes, Toilet Paper, Facial Tissue, Toothpaste, Razors, Shampoo, Laundry Detergent, Paper Towels, Body/ Hand lotion, Band Aids, Diapers. (sizes 2, 4, 5, 6), Sanitary Napkins.*



**Scholarship Opportunity for  
HS Seniors and Undergraduates**

Graduating high school seniors and current undergraduates are invited to apply for a scholarship from the Associates of St. John Bosco (ASJB), a Catholic non-profit organization in Northern Virginia that helps students keep their Catholic faith in college. ASJB will be offering up to five (5) scholarships totaling \$40,000 to students from the Catholic Diocese of Arlington who seek to serve the Church in some capacity after they graduate from college. Students who will be pursuing a religious vocation, or work as a youth minister or Catholic school educator, among other careers, are invited to apply. **Visit [www.asjb.org/scholarship-program](http://www.asjb.org/scholarship-program) to find the application and to learn more. Deadline is May 18, 2026.**

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO:**  
*Mother's day Pop-up Market at Nativity*

Shop, Celebrate & Spoil Mom! Join us for our charming Mother's Day Pop-Up Vendor Market! Looking for the perfect gift? We've got you covered! Explore a variety of unique, handmade, and boutique style items created by amazing local vendors. Whether you're shopping for mom, grandma, or a special woman in your life, you'll find something she'll absolutely love. Don't miss this fun and festive shopping experience!

Featured Items Include but not limited to:  
Artisan Crafts: Stained glass, handmade jewelry, and unique gifts. Self-Care: Premium skincare and professional nail art. Treats & Sips: Curated teas, fresh coffee, and delicious food.

When: Saturday, May 9th | 12:00 pm-4:00 pm  
Where: School Cafeteria

For questions, contact: Kim Delatte  
[kdelatte65@gmail.com](mailto:kdelatte65@gmail.com) 703-587-2749



Cash  
check &  
Credit  
Cards  
accepted



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

**Monday, April 27**  
7:30 am † Henrietta T. Critelli  
12:00 pm † Ann DiRenzo

**Tuesday, March 28**  
7:30 am † Bobby Coburn  
12:00 pm † The Chu family

**Wednesday, April 29**  
7:30 am † Ora Hall

**Thursday, April 30**  
7:30 am † Clyde Robert Harris  
12:00 pm † Maria L. Gallagher

**Friday, May 1**  
7:30 am † Virginia Gavilan

**Saturday, May 2**  
9:00 am † Lech Jasinski  
5:00 pm Nativity Parishioners  
7:00 pm † Celia Calero

**Sunday, May 3**  
7:00 am † Martha Palermo  
9:00 am † Fr. Richard Martin  
11:00 am † Fr. Richard Martin  
1:00 pm † Jairo Gustavo Vargas  
5:30 pm † Carmen Rosa Leon

**In prayer, let us remember  
the sick and deceased of the parish  
[visit nativityburke.org](http://www.nativityburke.org) for the Priest Mass Schedule**

Do you need a ride to a medical appointment or to go grocery shopping and are unable to drive? The Shepherd's Center-Fairfax Burke provides these services. Feel free to contact the Shepherd's Center Fairfax Burke at 703-323-4788 for information.

**Honduras Mission Trip 2026**

**Operation Starfish®**  
July 12-18, 2026

Join us for a life-changing Mission Trip to Honduras!  
Serve alongside local communities, grow in faith, and make a meaningful impact through outreach and connection.  
This is a unique opportunity to step outside your routine, share your gifts, and be part of something bigger.  
Come be the hands and feet of service.



**PRO-LIFE CORNER**

**The National Catholic Bioethics Center:** Provides education, guidance, and resources to the Church and society to uphold the dignity of the human person in health care and biomedical research, thereby sharing in the ministry of Jesus Christ and his Church. <https://www.ncbcenter.org>

**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, [sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net](mailto:sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net).

**Team Iron Will – The Intrinsic Value of people with DOWN SYNDROME:** “We equip families with tools, therapy, and community, and fight for a world that sees the value of every person with Down syndrome [<https://www.teamironwill.org/>] Our goal 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/>]

**The Lamb Center:** provides laundry, showers, hot meals, counseling, and financial assistance for poor and homeless. <https://nativityburke.org/service/the-lamb-center/>

**Tepeyac Pro-Life OB/GYN:** Faith-based Pro-life OB/GYN restoring integrity of human person with modern medicine and healing of Christ. [tepeyacobgyn.com](http://tepeyacobgyn.com), 703.273.9440.

**Gabriel Project:** Pregnancy Outreach for Expectant Mothers. Offers emotional, spiritual, material, and financial support through a pregnancy helpline and parish-based volunteer “Angel” support. [helpforpregnantwomen.org](http://helpforpregnantwomen.org), 866.444.3553.

**Catholic Charities Pregnancy and Adoption Services:** Provides transformative services to those whose lives are impacted by unplanned pregnancy. <https://www.cdda.net/need-help/pregnancy-and-adoption-services/>, 703.841.3830.

**Mary's Comfort of VA:** Ensuring Expectant Mothers Shelter, Support and New Beginnings. Provides full support, including training in parenting and life skills, career coaching and educational advancement. [maryscomfortva.org](http://maryscomfortva.org), 703.455.4500

**Project Rachel:** Help after Abortion. A safe place to share your emotions and work toward healing. [helpafterabortion.org](http://helpafterabortion.org), 703.841.2504.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT MINISTRY

Couples’ Mini- Retreat  
with Fr. Daniel Hanley



CONNECTION - COMMUNICATION - FAITH - LOVE

SATURDAY, MAY 30TH | 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM

NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

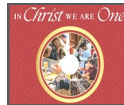
Mass - Brunch

Speaker & Breakout Sessions

Adoration - Childcare Offered

Registration Link:

<https://nativityburke.org/mem-mini-retreat/>  
[marriage@nativityburke.org](mailto:marriage@nativityburke.org)



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



As of April 14, our pledges and donations amount to \$771,554. That places Nativity \$68,446 away from our \$840,000 goal set by our Diocese. If you have not participated in our campaign, this is an ideal time to join and help us reach our dollar goal. Any amount will help. You can donate by scanning the QR code, going online to [www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA), or using the donor envelope at church. Your support helps so many charities, ministries, and programs throughout the Diocese and right here at Nativity. May God bless you for your generosity.



FOR E-GIVING, PLEASE USE  
THE QR CODE OR VISIT:  
<https://osvhub.com/nativityburke/giving/funds>



Men of Nativity

**Brews with Brothers:** 30 April: 7-9 pm, School Cafeteria. Light snacks and beverages will be provided. **All men of Nativity Church are welcome!** Brews with Brothers is a relaxed setting to discuss any topic and strengthen our Catholic friendships and beliefs.

All men of Nativity Church are welcome. **No sign-up or RSVP is required.**

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus | Father Sikora Council #7992

**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](mailto: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](mailto:smurph@nativityschool.org).

★ 250 YEARS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ★

# DIOCESAN FESTIVAL

★ CELEBRATING FAITH + FREEDOM ★

SATURDAY  
JUNE 13  
3:45 - 9:30 PM

CLARKE COUNTY  
FAIRGROUNDS  
BERRYVILLE, VA



FREE EVENT FOR ALL AGES  
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE COMPLIMENTARY FOOD

MASS WITH BISHOP BURBIDGE ★ MUSIC ★ FOOD

**EMAIL & TEXT SCAM ALERT - PLEASE BEWARE**

Recently there have been several email messages and texts from scammers pretending to be Nativity clergy. Our priests, deacons or office staff **DO NOT** and will **NEVER** email or text anyone with questions / asking for gift cards / favors or any kind of (financial) assistance. Please be careful and delete these kinds of emails and messages immediately. **DO NOT REPLY!**

If you are unsure or have any questions at all, please contact the parish office at 703-400-0737.

Our pregnancy centers, A Woman’s Choice, is looking for a Client Advocate/Co-Associate Director for our Falls Church office. Qualifications include being Pro-Life, with a Medical or Counseling background and bilingual in Spanish & English. The position is full time, 30 hrs a week from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, with benefits or part time, 25 hrs a week from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm or 10:00 am-3:00 pm with a two-hour shift one Saturday per month. A Woman’s Choice provides women seeking an abortion, with the compassionate care they need to feel empowered to choose life. For more information or to request an application, please contact Teresa “Tessy” Trissell at [AWCFallsChurch@gmail.com](mailto:AWCFallsChurch@gmail.com)



## PAUL VI OPTIONS PROGRAM

**OUR MISSION IS INCLUSION**

The PVI Options Program helps students with intellectual and developmental disabilities gain the academic, social, and life skills needed to help them excel after high school, in either a career or college setting.

Courses are tailored to each student’s interests, abilities, and post-graduation goals, with modified coursework and assessments that build on individual strengths. Through inclusive classes and extracurricular activities — including band, choir, clubs, and athletics — students form friendships, expand their understanding of the world, and grow in confidence and independence.



*The Options program has been supporting students with intellectual disabilities for over 25 years. We remain committed to fostering inclusion and belonging.*

St. Paul VI Catholic High School  
42341 Braddock Road, Chantilly, VA 20152  
703.352.0925 x1314 | [pvioptions@paulvi.net](http://pvioptions@paulvi.net)



Would you like to broaden your knowledge on the presence, power, and beauty of our Blessed Virgin Mary? Come join us at our Legion of Mary meetings, held on Wednesdays at 7:00pm in the Teacher’s Lounge. Interested? Contact Kathryn Quan at [jaynekathrynq1@yahoo.com](mailto:jaynekathrynq1@yahoo.com). Interested, contact: Jane Hamilton at: [mdhamilton@aol.com](mailto:mdhamilton@aol.com)



**A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry**

Were you inspired by Earth Day? Real, lasting change does not begin with perfection, it begins with participation. Small, imperfect actions we can sustain over time matter because they build habits, awareness, and confidence. Someone who starts by reducing food waste may later become curious about composting. Someone who learns where their recycling is processed may later be motivated to attend a meeting in support of local climate policy. Action creates momentum, and momentum fuels movements. Jesus taught about the power of growth in the parable of the mustard seed and his teaching emphasizes progress now, perfection later. We can all focus on making incremental daily improvements in our Care for Creation.

**JOIN CUB SCOUTING!!**

Pack 1101 invites all boys and girls K through 5th graders to join Cub Scouting. Learn new crafts, skills, and participate in fun activities such as the Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold Banquet, nature walks and family camp outs. Den meetings are once or twice per month from September to May at Nativity. For more information, contact Dave Zivich at [davezivich@gmail.com](mailto:davezivich@gmail.com).

NATIVITY STARS

**GALA & AUCTION**

Saturday, May 16, 2026 | 6:30 pm | Fr. Martin Center

*Class Basket Raffle Sale!*

April 25/26 • May 2/3 • May 9/10

Come check out our GRAND themed baskets, each with a unique and exciting theme! Every class – from Preschool through 8th grade – has created a one-of-a-kind basket filled with fun goodies and treats.

Purchase your raffle tickets for a chance to win one of these amazing baskets while supporting our school as part of the 2026 Nativity Stars Gala & Auction.

◆ 1 for \$10 • 3 for \$25 • 7 for \$50 • 15 for \$100



Drawing will take place at the Gala on Saturday, May 16th.  
You do NOT need to be present to win!

**April**  
**National Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**EVERY CHILD MATTERS**

**Make a difference**

**Let's stand up for children!**

**Learn how we can all keep children safe**

**Commitment Preventing Child Abuse**

Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection

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**BROADWAY SPOTLIGHT**

**DRAMA BOOTCAMP**

**ARTS & CRAFTS FUN**

**ART EXPLORER**

**SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS**

**~ SUMMER CAMPS ~**

**SpotlightSummerCamps.com**

Manassas, VA | Burke, VA

**JULY 13-24, 2026**

**Discover Cursillo: A Journey in Faith**

Looking for a way to deepen your relationship with Christ and live your faith more vibrantly in your daily life? Join fellow parishioners this spring for a series of informal gatherings to learn about the Cursillo (meaning 'short course') movement. This movement provides a simple method to help us live what is fundamental to being Christian. Together, we explore the three pillars of Christian life: Piety (recognizing where God is moving in our lives today), Study (growing in our understanding of God and the Church), Action (discovering how to be modern-day apostles in our homes and workplaces). We will meet on the following Saturdays at the Nativity Church Grotto to share fellowship and conversation from 9:00am – 11:00am on May 30, June 6 and June 20. Whether you have heard about Cursillo before or are simply curious about how to strengthen your walk with Christ, ALL are welcome! For more info or to RSVP, please contact: Laura Laverdiere at [lauralaverdiere@msn.com](mailto:lauralaverdiere@msn.com), 571-239-4418. <https://nativityburke.org/cursillo/>, <https://www.arlingtoncursillo.org>. Bring a lawn chair!





**COME VISIT THE NATIVITY GIFT SHOP!**



The Nativity Gift Shop has a lot of new merchandise! We have a large selection of cards and gifts for Confirmandi and Holy Communicants.

We also have beautiful Holy Communion veils available. Each one is hand made and one of a kind! Special requests will be considered, in the past we have transformed wedding veils as well. For more information and pricing, please contact Natasha Hines at the gift shop or leave a message for her at the parish office.

**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”*

**Walk Humbly**  
 Bishop Burbidge

Text **WALKHUMBLY** to **84576** for occasional alerts and updates.  
[arlingtondiocese.org/walkhumbly](http://arlingtondiocese.org/walkhumbly)



**BIBLE STUDIES AT NATIVITY PARISH**

**Wednesday morning and evening. Walking With Purpose:** Meeting in person. Walking with Purpose is a study program that aims to help bring women closer to Christ through Scripture. Meets

weekly in person on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm.

Registration for Fall 2026 will be available in July 2026.

Visit <https://nativityburke.org/wwp/> for details about the ministry OR contact [wwpnativity@gmail.com](mailto:wwpnativity@gmail.com) with questions.

**Thursday evening Bible Study:** Meeting in Person and Virtualy. We have just begun a study of the Gospel of Mark, likely the first of our four Gospels. Only 16 Chapters long, it rapidly covers Christ’s ministry on earth, focused on Jesus as the “suffering servant.” Likely written before 70 A.D. by John Mark, a follower of both Paul and Peter. We use Scott Hahn’s commentary and video resources. Meets each Thursday from 7:30 – 9:00pm virtually, resuming in person and virtual by March. Contact Deacon Dick Kelly [Deaconrfk@aol.com](mailto:Deaconrfk@aol.com).

**Friday morning Women’s Bible Study:** Meetings are Friday Mornings from 10:00am -12:00 noon in the Father Ready room (we meet on Zoom during the winter months). This year we are journeying through the Bible with Ascension’s Bible Timeline. Join us for prayer, study, and fellowship! For more information, visit <https://nativityburke.org/womens-bible-study-registration> or contact Camille Pryor at [wbs@nativityburke.org](mailto:wbs@nativityburke.org).

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

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

**Saturday morning Men’s Prayer and Reflection Group:** Meeting in-person/virtually. Men of all ages! We take a variety of approaches to know better and grow closer to our Lord: (1) Bible study video series like The Bible and the Mass and The Bible and the Church Fathers by Dr. Scott Hahn; (2) Short videos like 7 Verses Every Catholic Should Know by Dr. John Bergsma, and The Greatest Love Story—On the Road to Emmaus by Fr. Mike Schmitz; (3) Read, research, and reflect on Sunday scriptures; and (4) Guest speaker special topics like Bringing Others to Christ, Spiritual Warfare, and Stump the Theologian. We have great fellowship discussing how these sessions help bring Christ into our everyday lives so we become better Catholic men, family members, friends and above all, intentional disciples of Christ. Meet Saturdays from 8-9am in the Fr. Ready Room. Drop-ins welcome! Contact Rick Loffredo [rickloffredo@outlook.com](mailto:rickloffredo@outlook.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

**BASH 2026**  
Registration is now open for BASH. BASH will take place at Bishop O'Connell High School on Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>. This opportunity is open to middle schoolers in grades 6th-8th. Registration is required.

**YOUTH MINISTRY SUMMER CAMPS**  
Signups are now available for Vacation Bible Camp and Camp On The Edge. VBC and COTE run Tuesday June 30<sup>th</sup>-Friday July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Registration is required. Visit the parish website for more information!

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

✉ [cym@nativityburke.org](mailto:cym@nativityburke.org)    📷 [@nativitycym](https://www.instagram.com/nativitycym)

**Pre-HSPT and Parent How to High School**

John Paul is hosting the Pre-High School Placement Test (Pre-HSPT) for current 7th grade students on Saturday, May 16, 2026 from 9:00 am-12:15 pm.

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 the Pre-HSPT, please use the following link: <https://saintjohnpaul.mypaysimple.com/s/7th-grade-pre-hspt>. Please reach out by email at [admissions@jpthegreat.org](mailto:admissions@jpthegreat.org) or by phone at 703-445-0246 with any questions!

**Auditions for Hello, Dolly!**  
Nativity Players Theatre Ministry  
Join us for a wonderful summer of music, laughter, and community!

Nativity Players Theatre Ministry invites teens and adults to audition for our summer production of Hello, Dolly!—a joyful, high-energy musical filled with humor, heart, and unforgettable music. We are committed to creating a positive, supportive environment where performers of all experience levels can grow in confidence, community, and artistry.

**Audition Dates & Location: May 14 & 15**  
**Who Can Audition: Teens 16 and up and adults**  
**(limited roles for younger performers)**  
**Details & Registration: [nativitytheatreministry.org](http://nativitytheatreministry.org)**

**JP Summer Camps - Register Today!**

Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School's summer camp registration is now open! Check out this year's camp offerings and sign up today! For rising 2nd to 9th graders, JP summer camps are a great way to spend your summer! John Paul offers both Athletic and Enrichment Camps and its premier day camp, Camp Quintessential. Go to [jpthegreat.org/summercamp](http://jpthegreat.org/summercamp) to learn more about what JP is offering!

THE EIGHT ANNUAL  
**NATIVITY**  
*Golf Tournament*

Please join Fr. Bob for a great day of golf to support the Youth Programs at Nativity Parish, including Nativity School, Religious Education, Youth Ministry, and CYO Sports.

Can't join us that day? Please consider sponsoring a hole or donation to one of our many other sponsorship opportunities.

Registration and sponsorship information are on the Nativity website at: <https://nativityburke.org/golf/>

**MAY 18** | WESTFIELDS GOLF CLUB CLIFTON, VA  
DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS MAY 15

[HTTPS://NATIVITYBURKE.ORG/GOLF/](https://nativityburke.org/golf/)

# Faith & Science

FROM WONDER TO HUMAN GENIUS

**August 8, 2026**

*Conference with Optional 3-Day VIP Experience*

Christendom College invites you to a weekend of intellectual renewal, where leading Catholic thinkers will explore the profound harmony between faith and science. Together, we'll contemplate the wonder of creation and consider how human genius, rightly ordered, can serve truth, culture, and the dignity of the human person.

**CHRISTENDOM  
COLLEGE**

View speaker bios and ticket info at  
**conference.christendom.edu**  
or scan the QR code to register.



## Join the Assembly of Catholic Professionals

The Assembly of Catholic Professionals has been established by Bishop Burbidge as a ministry of the Catholic Foundation to deepen the connection between faith and professional life in the Diocese of Arlington. This new initiative brings together Catholic business and professional leaders from across the diocese to build community, grow spiritually, and support the Church's mission.

The Assembly welcomes all professionals who seek to integrate their Catholic faith into daily life. Through quarterly luncheons, members build relationships with one another and engage directly with Bishop Burbidge, diocesan clergy, national speakers, and local lay leaders in a setting of fellowship and formation.

Each event features remarks from Bishop Burbidge and a keynote speaker—prominent professionals in Church, business, law, government, media, or sports—reflecting on how their Catholic faith has shaped them and offering their own perspective on the faith in their field.

### Upcoming ACP Events

- April 28, 2026 - 11am-1pm - Westwood Country Club - Vienna  
Speaker: Andrew Abela, Dean, Busch School of Business at Catholic University. Register for the luncheon
- June 17, 2026 - 11am-1pm - Westwood Country Club - Vienna  
Speaker: Jacob Ciccarelli, CEO of Truthly
- September 24, 2026 - 11am-1pm - Westwood Country Club - Vienna  
Speaker: Cardinal Seán Patrick O'Malley, Archbishop Emeritus of Boston
- December 7, 2026 - 11am-1pm - Archer Hotel - Tysons Corner  
Speaker: Kerry Robinson, Catholic Charities USA

For more information and to register, visit:  
<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/development/the-foundation/programs-1/assembly-of-catholic-professionals>



## GROW IN YOUR FAITH

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## BUILD MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

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## LIVE YOUR FAITH AT WORK

Learn how to bring Catholic virtues into your career and everyday decisions.



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nativityschool.org



## Nativity School: Soaring to New Heights



\*\*\*\*\*

As a STEM School, part of our desire to bring new and engaging opportunities to our students led us to welcome Fairfax 1, one of the two Bell 429 helicopters Fairfax County Police Helicopter Division operates, to land in the field just behind Nativity School, to the raucous applause of all of its students and teachers. The field, often used for soccer games and church festivals, became the hot spot to listen to Officer Anthony Quarto, Officer Jon Kietz, and Pilot Mike Mountjoy discuss how they, and their colleagues, provide tactical police aviation support, aeromedical evacuation, search & rescue, and other specialized air support within Fairfax County and beyond, to enhance public safety and welfare.

As Second Lieutenant John Lieb, with the Public Affairs Bureau, Fairfax County Public Safety Headquarters, says, "Whether its providing aerial back up to officers apprehending a fleeing subject, searching a wooded area for lost hikers, or providing aid for a patient with critical injuries, the mission of our flight officers is much the same as officers on the ground. *They just arrive a little differently!*"



**Important Upcoming Dates ~**  
**May 4 - 8 - Teacher Appreciation Week**  
**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.nativityschool.org](http://www.nativityschool.org), (703) 455-2300, [smurph@nativityschool.org](mailto:smurph@nativityschool.org).



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



**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>. As we continue to celebrate Blessed Michael J. McGivney's Beatification, please enter the Promo Code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY to join online for free. Please email our Deputy Grand Knight, Vince Augelli, at [dgk7992@nativityburke.org](mailto:dgk7992@nativityburke.org) or the Grand Knight, Michael Bender at [gk7992@nativityburke.org](mailto:gk7992@nativityburke.org) with any questions.

**Volunteer for an event!** Scroll down to view all events, [https://linktr.ee/fr\\_sikora\\_council\\_7992](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.

**Widow Support:** **\*\*Updated\*\*** We need drivers to support rides to appointments. See SUG for details!

**28 April:** Healing Mass - Catchers.

**30 April:** Brews w/Brothers! Come on out and meet some new brothers! Details in newsletter.

**8 & 9 May:** Dames - High Tea Party.

**9 May:** Blood Drive. Please help with sign ups for the Spring Blood Drive at St Raymonds 7 AM to Noon. Sign up using the link below. We need one Knight after mass for sign up in the Narthex. Total of 65 appointments with a goal of 59 donations. [https://www.inovabloodsaves.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/35729](https://www.inovabloodsaves.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/35729)

**18 May:** Golf Tournament.

**30 May:** Pilgrimage: St Thomas More Cathedral

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:fn2996@vakofc.org).

## 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.

GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS  
ARE INVITED TO...

# COLLEGE NIGHTS

*Kick off college with faith, friendships, and meaningful connections! Meet fellow Catholics from your college (and beyond) before the semester begins. All events begin at 7PM. Pizza dinner included!*

**JUNE 30** Holy Spirit, *Annandale*

**JULY 9** St. Theresa, *Ashburn*

**JULY 14** Holy Trinity, *Gainesville*

**JULY 21** Basilica of St. Mary, *Alexandria*

**JULY 28** St. Mary of the Immaculate  
Conception, *Fredericksburg*



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## Meditación del Papa Benedicto XVI

Jesús que dijo de sí mismo que había venido para que nosotros tengamos la vida y la tengamos en plenitud, en abundancia, nos explicó también qué significa "vida": "Ésta es la vida eterna: que te conozcan a ti, único Dios verdadero, y a tu enviado, Jesucristo". La vida en su verdadero sentido no la tiene uno solamente para sí, ni tampoco sólo por sí mismo: es una relación. Y la vida entera es relación con quien es la fuente de la vida. Si estamos en relación con Aquel que no muere, que es la Vida misma y el Amor mismo, entonces estamos en la vida. Entonces "vivimos". 28. Pero ahora surge la pregunta: de este modo, ¿no hemos recaído quizás en el individualismo de la salvación? ¿En la esperanza sólo para mí que además, precisamente por eso, no es una esperanza verdadera porque olvida y descuida a los demás? No. La relación con Dios se establece a través de la comunión con Jesús, pues solos y únicamente con nuestras fuerzas no la podemos alcanzar. En cambio, la relación con Jesús es una relación con Aquel que se entregó a sí mismo en rescate por todos nosotros. Estar en comunión con Jesucristo nos hace participar en su ser "para todos", hace que éste sea nuestro modo de ser. Nos comprometemos en favor de los demás, pero sólo estando en comunión con Él podemos realmente llegar a ser para los demás, para todos. (*Benedicto XVI, Enciclopedia Spe salvi, nn. 27-28*).

Estoy delante de la Puerta Santa y pido: «Señor, ¡ayúdame a abrir la puerta de mi corazón!». No tendría mucha eficacia el Año Santo si la puerta de nuestro corazón no dejara pasar a Cristo que nos empuja a ir hacia los demás, para llevarlo a Él y su amor. Por lo tanto, igual que la Puerta santa permanece abierta, porque es el signo de la acogida que Dios mismo nos reserva, así también nuestra puerta, la del corazón, ha de estar siempre abierta para no excluir a ninguno. Ni siquiera al que o a la que me molesta: a ninguno. (*Homilía de S.S. Francisco, 16 de diciembre de 2015*).

### Reflexión

Él nos lo dice: Yo soy el Cristo. Pero muchas veces no lo escuchamos. Él nos habla siempre con hechos más que con palabras. ¿Cuántos milagros se han realizado a lo largo de los siglos en la Iglesia y cuán poca confianza a veces tenemos? Es Cristo quien nos está hablando a través de todas estas obras.

Nos habla sobre todo en el silencio, en un atardecer en el mar, en la brisa cargada de fragancias de los campos, en el canto de los pajaritos... son las palabras de Dios que utiliza para comunicarnos su amor. Dios no nos habla en la fuerza de la tormenta, ni en el huracán, nos habla en el susurro de la brisa.

Además el Señor es nuestro Pastor, con Él nada temeremos, porque nos protege bajo su mano. Él se olvida de sí mismo para darnos su amor, como un verdadero Pastor sufre frío, calor, cansancio, sed, hambre... por amor.

Nosotros somos las ovejas de Cristo, fuimos entregados a Él por el mismo Padre celestial. Tanto es el amor de Dios que en todo momento se recuerda de nosotros. Nunca seremos arrebatados de la mano del Padre. Él nos protege y nos cuida entre sus manos.

Él y el Padre son uno. Uno que significa unidad, reflejo e imagen de la unidad que tenemos que vivir entre nosotros. Los hijos con los padres, los padres entre sí, los hermanos, los amigos, los que no conozco, los enemigos. Es el ejemplo de Cristo el que debemos imitar.

## 4º Domingo de Pascua - A Evangelio de la Misa: Jn 10,1-10 - El Buen Pastor

La parábola del Buen Pastor es una de las más expresivas para conocer a Cristo, y sigue siendo fácilmente comprensible aún en los ambientes poco rurales. Cristo se compara a Buen Pastor, que cuida de sus ovejas, que somos nosotros. El nos procura cuidado y cariño, alimento y protección. Nos advierte de los peligros de la vida y nos orienta para sortearlos, nos lleva a los mejores pastos, que son su doctrina y su ejemplo y sobre todo el alimento espiritual de la gracia santificante a través de los sacramentos. Ahora son los sacerdotes y obispos, y el Pastor común, el Papa, quienes hacen las veces de Cristo-Pastor entre nosotros. No se les puede ver y juzgar de otra manera.

### Oración para cada día de la semana

*Señor, que nos aleccionaste con la elocuente parábola del Buen Pastor, para que mejor te conozcamos, y te tratemos, y más fácilmente acudamos a Ti.*

*Gracias, Señor, por los cuidados que nos proporcionas, para que el error, o los enemigos de la fe y de la verdad no nos dañen.*

*Gracias por el alimento de la Palabra de Dios, que yo debo conocer en profundidad; y por alimento de la Eucaristía que nutre y fortalece mi vida interior.*

*Deseo participar siempre en la Eucaristía dominical, y también frecuentemente a diario, pues ahí nos ofreces la Mesa de la Palabra y la Mesa de tu Cuerpo y Sangre.*

*Sin ellos sé que no puedo vivir y perseverar en la fe y el amor cristiano. Dame hambre de tu Palabra y de tu Cuerpo Eucarístico. Hazme obediente y fiel a tus enseñanzas, que ahora siguen predicando los sacerdotes, nuestros pastores en medio del Pueblo de Dios.*

*Te pido por el Papa actual, Benedicto XVI, el Pastor de toda la Iglesia, para que sea fiel a su misión y nos aliente con su palabra y su ejemplo de santidad y entrega. Te pido por todos los obispos, sucesores de los Apóstoles, para apacientar las parcelas de la Iglesia, o Diócesis, que hay en todo el mundo, para que sean diligentes y valientes defensores de la Palabra de Dios.*

*También deseo encomendarte a los sacerdotes: primero para que no nos falten y por tanto abundan las vocaciones sacerdotales; y en segundo lugar para que sean ejemplares en su conducta y en su dedicación de servir al Pueblo de Dios.*

**Padre Segismundo Fernandez Rodríguez**

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