

I Am the Vine you are the branches

John 15:5.



1973

2023

Celebrating 50 Years!

"We are God's people" - 1 Peter 2:10

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

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

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS

EDUCATION PROGRAM:

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

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

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



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

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

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

HOLY DAY MASSES: As Announced

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

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

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

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

WEBMASTER:
Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

SOCIAL MEDIA:
Mary Castellano, socialmedia@nativityburke.org

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



“See, I make all things new!” ~ Rev 21:1-5

My dear parishioners,

Easter is a time to revitalize our membership in the flock of Jesus. The church needs each of us and we need the church. We follow Christ by belonging to the church of Nativity, registering here, coming to Mass weekly, receiving sacraments here, supporting parish activities, sharing its life, refreshing ourselves in our Catholic faith and sharing that faith with others.

The Risen Christ is truly with us and our parish is filled with life! Our 2nd Graders will be making their First Communion during May and our 8th graders will be Confirmed on May 18. We love you and are so proud of you. Yes, Nativity is a wonderful community in which to live because people are striving to live the new commandment, “Love one another.”

Jesus makes all things new. With Jesus in our lives, something completely new occurs in our everyday life as we live the new Commandment of love. Newness often makes us fearful, including the newness that God brings us and the newness which God asks of us. Brothers and sisters, let us not be closed to the newness God wants to bring into our lives. Let the risen Jesus enter your life. He is life! He is close to you, He is with you and will give you the peace and strength you are looking for.

On May 5th will be our annual collection for Operation Starfish started by Fr. Martin and parishioners 26 years ago. We remember Fr. Martin this week on May 3rd which is the 10th anniversary of his return to God after a life of bringing love and hope to all. His spirit continues to inspire us. Yes, God makes all things new!

Love and Blessings,
Fr. Bob Cilinski
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.



Knights of Columbus KOVAR Collection

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting for KOVAR after each Mass THIS weekend. Please consider donating.

Knights will be at the back of the Church with baskets and can provide more information on KOVAR. You can donate as you leave Mass by cash or by check. All checks should be made out to KOVAR. You can also donate electronically through Nativity’s on-line giving platform – OSV.

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 at the back of the Church and Parish office. Mother’s names will be placed on the Altar during the month of May.

NOVENA MASSES

Sunday, May 12	7:00AM
Sunday, May 12	9:00AM
Sunday, May 12	11:00AM
Monday, May 13	7:30AM
Tuesday, May 14	7:30AM
Thursday, May 16	7:30AM
Friday, May 17	7:30AM
Saturday, May 18	9:00AM
Saturday, May 18	7:00PM



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

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

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

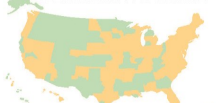
This week we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Today, over 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need.

Your support of this appeal helps them meet these faith formation and sacramental needs. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. More information can be found at:

www.usccb.org/home-missions. Please be generous, thank you!

SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME



Over 40% of U.S. dioceses struggle to meet basic pastoral needs.

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Thank you for your continuing strong support for this year's Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA). As of April 18, our pledges and donations amount to \$786,749 but with only about 17 percent of registered families pledging. If you have not yet participated, the Easter Season is still a great time to make a sacrificial offering at any amount that works for you and your family. See www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or just scan the QR code for easy access.

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



SCAN ME

NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

Join the Diocese of Arlington for an adventure to remember!

July 17-21, 2024

FAMILY PACKAGES FOR AS LITTLE AS \$1500!

The Office of Youth, Campus, and Young Adult Ministries is coordinating a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress. If you have a family and have been looking for a low-cost option to participate in this experience, this is a great solution for you! We have rented a beautiful camp for youth, young adults and families to partake in summer activities during the day and the Eucharistic Congress in the afternoon/evening. Families may choose to join us on the motor coach (at cost) or drive themselves and meet us there!

Marriage Enrichment Ministry

Celebrating Marriage

Couples' Mini-Retreat

with Deacon Richard Kelly

Saturday, May 11th

9 AM- 1:30 PM

Nativity Catholic Church

Mass & Prayer / Brunch / Speaker / Break Out Sessions



REGISTRATION LINK

<https://nativityburke.org/mem-mini-retreat/>

JOIN THE NATIVITY EXTENDED CARE TEAM
*Love working with Children? Creative with fingerpaint?
 Like to sift sand? The following qualifications are necessary:*

- A LOVE of children and a 'Can-Do' Attitude
- Afternoon availability, 2:30pm-6:00pm
- Diocesan compliance to work with kids

To apply, please contact: Jen Behan, Director at jbehan@nativityschool.org



A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Are you tired of spending so much of your spring, summer and fall tending to your lawn? Have you noticed the resources that go into fertilizing, weed killing, watering and mowing our monocultures? Are you tired of advertising that promotes pollinators and other essential creatures of our food webs as "pests" to be "controlled?" Are you concerned about the impact of excess fertilizer, herbicides and pesticides on our children's and pets' health and our water quality? Do our lawns promote the biodiversity of plants and animals Pope Francis talks about in Laudato Si as essential to our flourishing?

This year may be the year to learn more about how you can make a difference in your own front yard. Start small—learn about St Kateri Habitats. <https://www.kateri.org/saint-kateri-habitat-2/>

"What Are Saint Kateri Habitats? Saint Kateri Habitats are sanctuaries that go beyond providing essential resources for people and wildlife; they are living, sacred spaces that embody the harmonious coexistence of faith and ecological stewardship. These habitats offer food, water, cover, and space for all beings, becoming places of prayer and contemplation that rejuvenate faith while preserving the spiritual and material gifts of creation." We can put away the chemicals and gas powered equipment and find God among his plants and animals. Today is a great day to get started!

ECHO Food Room Most Needed Items Collection next weekend!

- Choose sizes appropriate for our average family size of four.
- **PLEASE NO GLASS JARS**
- ECHO continues to see a deficit of several thousand pounds a month between food donated and food given to clients. Any donation, large or small, is most gratefully welcomed. Last month we collected 902 lbs!

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

Tin Fish (tuna, sardines, salmon etc.), Spaghetti Pasta and Sauce, INSTANT Coffee (many clients do not have coffee makers), Can Tomatoes, Baked Beans, Can Fruit, Bag Rice (Clients prefer white, jasmine or basmati), Instant (Box) Potatoes, Crackers, Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup, Ramen, Hot Chocolate, can milk, shelf stable milk Can Meat (chicken, Spam, chili, small hams, beef stew etc.), Juice (Bottles or box), Tea (green, herbal or black), Spices (garlic, onion, cinnamon, salt, pepper), Healthy Snacks, Masa (Corn) Flour, Lentils, Bag Beans (black, red or garbanzo preferred), Lemon or Lime Juice, Jelly and Honey, Tortillas, Cooking Oil, Brown Paper Bags, Reusable Grocery Bags, Children's Toothbrushes, Detergent, Toilet Paper, Deodorant, Shampoo, Bath Soap, Facial Tissues, Dish Soap, Paper Towels, Band Aids, Baby Wipes, Diapers.



BASH!

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024
3:30-8:30PM

Who: middle schoolers in grades 6-8
What: music, games, inspirational speakers, confessions, a Vigil Mass for Sunday, and more!
Where: Bishop O'Connell High School, transportation provided
Cost: \$25, includes bus transportation, dinner, snacks, t-shirt, and more

REGISTER HERE
 ←

Contact: Rebecca Judge,
 Director of Youth Ministry
cymenativityburke.org

nativityburke.org/bash
 Registration closes May 1 at 11:00am

Attention Please!

The 9:00am Morning Mass on Saturday, May 4th, will serve as a First Communion Mass.

Please be aware that Parking and Seating in the Church will be very limited for this Mass. Thank you for your understanding!

YOUTH MINISTRY SUMMER CAMPS

Tuesday, June 18 - Friday, June 21



VACATION BIBLE CAMP

Current K-4 graders 8:45am - 12pm | \$40 per camper

CAMP ON THE EDGE

Current 5-8 graders 1:30pm - 4:30pm | \$40 per camper

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Monday June 17 - Friday, June 21

VBC: 8TH GRADERS - ADULTS
COTE: 10TH GRADERS - ADULTS

\$10 t-shirt fee for teen volunteers*

Childcare provided for volunteers!



Registration is now open on the website
contact: vbc@nativityburke.org

Nativity Catholic Church

"My Journey Into Becoming"

Inspirational Book Talk by Author & Nativity Parishioner



Cynthia Encinas-Concordia

Transformational Life Coach, Published Author, & International Speaker

Cynthia is excited to share her story and new book "My Journey into Becoming" with our Nativity community. Come and hear Cynthia's inspirational talk!

Monday, May 20 | 7:00 - 9:00 pm | Fr Ready Room

Immobilized by trauma, Cynthia found a way to break free and move forward. She shares her notes on her transformational journey into manifesting her life dream. Cynthia has become a force of influence in her career as a life coach and intends to expand the horizon of her positive impact in her books.

Learn more about Cynthia: www.dreamtorise.info

CATECHISTS NEEDED FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR!

Are you looking for a way to deepen your faith while making a meaningful impact in your community? We invite you to join our vibrant parish family as a volunteer catechist, where you can share the gift of your faith and inspire others on their spiritual journeys.

Why Become a Catechist?

Share the richness of your faith with eager minds and open hearts. Guide and support learners of all ages in their spiritual understanding and growth. Connect with a community of faith that values compassion, learning, and spiritual nourishment.

Experience the joy and fulfillment that comes from serving and teaching others.

Your Role a Catechist:

You will facilitate faith-based lessons and discussions using provided guidelines and materials. Engage students from Grade K-HS through stories, activities and thoughtful dialog. Create a warm, inclusive, and supportive learning environment for all.

Build and strengthen our community through faith, hope and love.

NOTE: ALL VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH CHILDREN MUST COMPLETE DIOCESAN PAPERWORK AND GO THROUGH A BACKGROUND CHECK PROCESS.

PLEASE VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE: NATIVITYBURKE.ORG TO SIGN-UP, OR SCAN THE QR-CODE:



THIS IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO TOUCH HEARTS AND CHANGE LIVES, INCLUDING YOUR OWN. JOIN US IN THIS BEAUTIFUL MISSION TO SPREAD FAITH AND LOVE.

nativityburke.org

-Religious Education



Archdiocese for the Military Services 30th Annual Memorial Mass - May 18th, 2024

At the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception 4th Street & Michigan Avenue, NE Washington, D.C. 20017 on 1566 Saturday, 18 May 2024, Mass Time: 4:30 pm.

Honoring the men and women of the Armed Forces Principal Celebrant and Homilist The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D., Archbishop Parking is limited. Car pooling advised.

Military personnel are encouraged to be in uniform Dress: Civilian - Business Attire Military - Service Dress To request seating or to obtain additional information, please visit: <https://www.milarch.org/memorial-mass/laity-registration>

PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC)

We are a social group, mostly aged 60 and over. (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate-membership group.) Meet us for: walk at Wakefield Park (May 2); dinner in Falls Church (May 5); Square Dancing (May 7, 21, 28); Thursday lunches (May 9 & 23); bowling in Alexandria (May 11); Mass at St. Mary's Basilica and lunch in Alexandria (May 15); theater at Greenspring Retirement Community (May 18); feeding the hungry at Christ House (May 25); dance at Epiphany Byzantine Catholic Church (June 1). For details, visit our website at: bit.ly/ptsc. Questions or to RSVP, email ptscnva@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 29, 2024. Collections will begin Saturday, June 22, 2024 and continue through Wednesday June 26, 2024. Your donations are tax-deductible and sincerely appreciated.

The Good Shepherd Players present: INTO THE WOODS Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim - Book by James Lapine (Starring members of the Nativity Players!)

Performances May 10, 11, 17, and 18 at 7:30 PM;
May 12 and 19 at 2:00 PM

Church of the Good Shepherd
9350 Braddock Road, Burke

Tickets: \$22/adult, \$15/student (18 or younger)

Available at the door or at gsmusic.ticketleap.com

VIP wine and cheese pre-show reception on opening night!

Please join Father Bob for 18 holes of golf, including driving range, beverages, lunch following play, and awards in our tournament to benefit the youth of Nativity Parish.
The Seventh Annual Nativity tournament is Monday, May 20, 2024 at Westfields Golf Club, Clifton, VA.
 Can't join us that day? Please consider sponsoring a hole or one of our many other sponsorship opportunities.

THE 9TH ANNUAL NATIVITY PARISH

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday May 20, 2024 Westfields Golf Club, Clifton, VA
 TO BENEFIT YOUTH PROGRAMS AT
Nativity

Format: Scramble, Captain's Choice
Check-in: 6:45-7:30am
Shotgun Start: 8am
Fee: \$185 per player; \$740 per foursome
Includes: Breakfast, 18-holes of golf, cart, range balls, beverage cart tickets, lunch following play, awards ceremony

Awards: Winning Teams, Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, Hole in one contest and more!
Available: Mulligans, Raffle Prizes
Website: <https://nativityburke.org/golf/>
Contact: msinclair@nativityburke.org
Deadline: May 15, 2024

Marian Bible Study Lunch and Learn!

Bring your own lunch and let's come together in fellowship to deepen our relationship with God through the Blessed Virgin Mary



"Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother" by Dr. Edward Sri is an extraordinary pilgrimage that reveals Mary's unique role in God's kingdom and in our lives. Filmed on location in the Holy Land, this study will place you in the midst of the powerful drama of her earthly life, taking you through her joys ... and her sorrows. You will learn how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her divine Son. Seeing Mary in this way will change you forever. Mary will become a part of your daily life, and in your daily life, you will become more like Christ.

Thursdays from May 2 - May 30 at 1:00 pm after the 12:00 noon Mass and prayers in the Fr. Ready Room

For info or to register, email marriage@nativityburke.org or call/text your name to 571-208-2821

Sick / Homebound Visits

Are you or someone you know sick and/or homebound for any reason? We can arrange home visits from the parish and provide prayer and the sacraments. We would love to bring God's Grace and Peace to anyone in difficult times. Please contact Cat Sands, Pastoral Minister, at csands@nativityburke.org to schedule a visit.



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

Monday, April 29th

7:30 am † Lorin Goodrich

Tuesday, April 30th

7:30 am † Sally Mernah
 12:00 pm † Virginia Gavilan

Wednesday, May 1st

7:30 am † Maria L. Gallagher
 3:00 pm † Florence Studinski

Thursday, May 2nd

7:30 am † Patricia Cobb
 12:00 pm † Vincent Nicholais

Friday, May 3rd

7:30 am † Fr. Richard Martin
 9:00 am † Jose E. Pastor Jr.

Saturday, May 4th

9:00 am † Hershielieda Roa
 5:00 pm † James H. Knebel
 7:00 pm † Teresa Machicado Uria

Sunday, May 5th

7:00 am † Ramon & Angela Vega
 9:00 am Parishioners
 11:00 am † Fr. Richard Martin
 1:00 pm † Laurette King
 5:30 pm † Ernesto Chandeck

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

Couple to Couple League

Postpartum Class

Sunday, May 5th from 1-3 pm
St. Raymond of Penafort

Information and Registration:
<https://ccli.powerappsportals.com/en-US/>
 Select "Postpartum|English| Onsite," then enter your zip code.

Marian Homes needs your support!

Marian Homes Inc., a Catholic, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing safe, supportive living environments for intellectually disabled adults, announces the purchase of its ninth home in Virginia. The latest purchase is in Winchester, VA, representing an expansion out of the Northern Virginia area. This significant expansion is part of a broader Capital Campaign to raise \$250,000 for the purchase and refurbishment of the home, which will accommodate four to five intellectually disabled adults seeking independent living solutions.

Founded in 1996 by the St. Mary of Sorrows Council 8600 of the Knights of Columbus, Marian Homes, Inc., has been a cornerstone in the community, working closely with donors, partners, and local government agencies to create living spaces that currently serve 40 individuals. The organization's commitment to enhancing the lives of intellectually disabled adults by providing them a place to live independently as their parents age is more critical than ever.

Can you help?

We need hearts and hands. If you would like to volunteer with this organization, please contact Lisa Anthony-Price (marketing@marianhomes.org). To donate to our Capital Campaign, navigate to <https://www.marianhomes.org>. Thank you for your prayers and care!

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

WORKCAMP 2024
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 24-27 IN WINCHESTER, VA

To volunteer, contact our WorkCamp team (wc@nativityburke.org)
Visit arlingtondiocese.org/workcamp for more info

YOUTH MINISTRY

LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12

DINNER - FELLOWSHIP - PRAYER & FORMATION

Sundays | 6:30-8:30pm

HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUPS

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

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



EDGE: GRADES 6-8

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

BASH: REGISTER TODAY

SATURDAY, MAY 4 | 3:30-8:30PM

Bishop Burbidge invites all middle school students (grades 6-8) of the Diocese to join him at BASH 2024! This event includes music, games, inspirational speakers, confessions, and a Vigil Mass for Sunday, with Bishop Burbidge as the principal celebrant.

[See website for full schedule](#)

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

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

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS

~ SUMMER CAMPS ~

JULY 8-19, 2024

Manassas, VA | Burke, VA

SpotlightSummerCamps.com

BROADWAY SPOTLIGHT

DRAMA BOOTCAMP

ARTS & CRAFTS FUN

ART EXPLORER





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



Preschool & Pre-K Celebrate Fathers and Father Figures: Donuts for Dads!

The youngest among us recently got to spend some extra-special time with their dads (or father figures!) - flying foam airplanes, running, jumping, and climbing in the playground, eating donuts and drinking juice. It was the perfect way to spend some solid one-on-one time with one of your favorite guys. Coming in May! Muffins with Mothers and Mother Figures. Check out our Facebook post at /nativityschoolburke, where we have additional photos posted.



Join Us for a Magical Evening!

Get ready to be whisked away to Paris as our talented students bring to life the beloved musical production of Disney's The Aristocats KIDS!

Date: Friday, May 03, 2024 Time: 7:30 p.m. (Doors open at 7:00 p.m.) Location: Fr. Martin Performing Arts Center @ Nativity Catholic School - 6398 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA 22015

Admission is FREE, and no tickets are required! Don't miss this paw-some opportunity to support our students and experience the joy of live theater. We can't wait to see you there!

Upcoming Dates At-A-Glance!

- May 1 - First Communion Rehearsal 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
May 2 - School Play for Students - 2:00 pm
May 3 - Half Day; 12:00 pm DISMISSAL
May 3 - School Play - 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm
May 6 - Teacher Appreciation Week Begins
May 7 - 8th Grade Field Trip
May 9 - Kindergarten Field Trip

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



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

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

4 May, KOVAR Safeway Collection Saturday: Volunteer on Link Tree.

13 May, 7:00pm in the main church Exemplification Ceremony: Fellow Knights, your presence is requested. Please take this opportunity to welcome & support our newest KofC, Council 7992 members as they complete their 3rd degree (no SUG).

19 May, Knights Wives Appreciation Dinner: *Seating is Limited - By signing up you agree to the financial commitment. Volunteer on Link Tree.

27 & 28 April, KOVAR After Mass Collection: Volunteer on Link Tree.

19 May, Wives Appreciation Dinner: Link Tree link coming soon.

7 June, School End of Year BBQ: SUG is coming soon. Nativity Yard Sale is on Sat, 29 June. We will have several volunteer opportunities on separate, yet equally important SUGs. Please consider volunteering.

Yard Sale Area Leads: Dedicated coordinators, area leads, and assistant area leads. To make the yard sale run as efficiently as possible, we are asking area leads or assistant leads to commit to supporting the collection period as well as the date of the sale. Volunteer on Link Tree.

Yard Sale Collections: The collection period will run from June 22th through June 26st. SUG is coming soon.

Yard Sale Tent raising: Needs brawns and brains & maybe a spectator or two for encouragement. SUG is coming soon.

Yard Sale date of sale: Too many needs to list. SUG is coming soon.

Yard Sale Clean-up: SUG is coming soon.

Food for Others: Volunteer for food distribution to the poor. Occasionally deliver Thursday or Friday evenings. For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net. For Fridays, contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com.

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

Food for Others: Volunteer drivers & vehicle support for food distribution to the poor. Occasionally deliver Thursday or Friday evenings. For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net. For Fridays, contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com.

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

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

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



SHORT TERM MISSIONS
LIFELONG FAITH

AUTHENTIC CATHOLIC MISSION TRIP FOR ADULTS IN FREDERICK COUNTY, VA

JUNE 29 - JULY 2, 2024

Deadline to register June 1

What?

Serve the poor in our local communities! CBC is partnering with the Diocese of Arlington Office of Youth, Campus, and Young Adult Ministries for a post-WorkCamp mission trip to help diocesan contractors with remaining construction projects and clean-up at sites.

Who?

This domestic mission trip is open to all adults ages 18 and up.

How?

Fr. Stephen Vaccaro will serve as chaplain and veteran CBC leader Chuck O'Hern will be the mission team leader. Registration includes lodging and meals at San Damiano Retreat Center.



More info & to register go to www.cbc-missions.org
Questions? Email info@commissionedbychrist.org



THE WALK HUMBLLY
PODCAST
 With **BISHOP BURBIDGE**

"I recognize the importance of communications and evangelization, the use of all tools possible to get out the Good News."
 — Bishop Burbidge

<https://www.catholicerald.com/walk-humbly-podcast/>

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 visits Nativity to counsel clients in-person on Thursdays from 10:00am-6:00pm. She is available 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.

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.

THE MARIH CENTER NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The Marih Center, a pro-life pregnancy resource center serving families for 50 years, is experiencing an influx of new families (741 new in addition to our existing families in 2023). We are in need of additional volunteers, especially Spanish translators. Our hours at the Center at 3230B Duke Street in Alexandria are Mon-Thurs 10:00am-3:00pm & Sat. 10:00-11:00am. We welcome your call and heart of service to help so many in need. Please call Beth Gilles-Whitehead at 703-370-4774.



BIBLE STUDIES AT NATIVITY PARISH

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

Tuesday evening Young Adult Bible Studies: 6 weeks in small groups. At different times throughout the year, we offer 6-week long Bible studies where we encounter Jesus through the Gospels. We read three chapters of Scripture each week and come together to talk about it. We put you into a group and each group chooses where to meet, usually at a local restaurant or coffee shop. Register at <https://nativityburke.org/ya-bible-study/> Contact Alison Fram: afam@nativityburke.org.

Wednesday morning and evening, Walking With Purpose: Meeting in person. Walking with Purpose is a study program that aims to help bring women closer to Christ through Scripture. Meets weekly in person on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Registration for Fall 2024 will be available in July 2024. Visit <https://nativityburke.org/www/> for details about the ministry or contact wwpnativity@gmail.com with questions.

Thursday evening Bible Study: Meeting in person virtually. Currently studying the Old Testament Book of Tobit, featuring the Angel Raphael, written a few hundred years before the birth of Jesus. Meets each Thursday from 7:30 – 9:00pm in person in the school's Art Room and virtually. Contact Deacon Dick Kelly at 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 are studying Galatians (Jan/Feb 2024) and the Gospel of Mark (Mar/Apr 2024). Spring sessions will be in person. Winter session will be on Zoom. Join us for prayer, study, and fellowship! Register for the next session at <https://nativityburke.org/womens-bible-study-registration/>. Contact Camille Pryor at wbs@nativityburke.org.

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

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

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

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



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The college campus is vying for the souls of our Catholic young people. Come learn about the current situation on college campuses all across the country, and how you as a parent can prepare now to help your child faithfully live out their next four years of college.

MASS TO PRAY FOR HEALING OF VICTIMS/ SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

CELEBRATED BY BISHOP BURBIDGE



JUNE 20, 2024 AT 6:30PM

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
830 23rd St S
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Reception to follow in Parish Hall

ALL OF THE FAITHFUL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

The Diocese of Arlington's Office of Victim Assistance seeks to extend the loving compassion of Christ to victims/survivors of sexual abuse throughout their healing. If you are, or someone you know is, a victim/survivor of child sexual abuse by clergy, an employee, or a volunteer of the Diocese of Arlington, please contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator to report an allegation and receive assistance.

The Office of Victim Assistance offers outreach, support, and assistance to victims/survivors to address individual needs for healing. Please contact the office for more information.



Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington



Frank Moncher, PhD
Victim Assistance Coordinator



Alejandra Shapero, MA
Program Assistant

(703) 841-2530

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ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT ECHO

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



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Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

5th Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 28
 Acts 9:26-31
 Ps 22:26-28,30-32
 1 Jn 3:18-24
 Jn 15:1-8

Monday, April 29
St. Catherine of Siena
 Acts 14:5-18
 Ps 115:1-4,15-16
 Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday, April 30
 Acts 14:19-28
 Ps 145:10-13b,21
 Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday, May 1
 Acts 15:1-6
 Ps 122:1-5
 Jn 15:1-8

Thursday, May 2
St. Athanasius
 Acts 15:7-21
 Ps 96:1-3,10
 Jn 15:9-11

Friday, May 3
Sts. Phillip and James
 1 Cor 15:1-8
 Ps 19:2-5
 Jn 14:6-14

Saturday, May 4
 Acts 16:1-10
 Ps 100:1b-3,5
 Jn 15:18-21

What a beautiful metaphor Christ shared in the Upper Room! Jesus was trying to help His disciples understand the gift of Divine Grace and how the lives of Christians must stay joined to the glorified life of Jesus to be nourished, sustained, and grow to fruitfulness.

Like any master gardener of a vineyard, God our Father delights in each of us whom He plants in His garden. He is passionate about our growth, and He wants us to reach the fruitful potential of our souls in this life so that we may fulfill our purpose in His vineyard here on earth.

He fertilizes the soil to help us grow. He waters, weeds, and prunes our vines to help us become all we were meant to be. God knows the beautiful fruitfulness and growth that we can experience in His perfect plan. He watches over each of His vines with loving care.

Our souls are made to be the perfect reflection of Christ. God the Father, with the help of the Holy Spirit, watches over us with loving guidance and protection and wants our souls to grow in love and holiness.

There are times in the garden of our lives when enemies slip in and threaten the beauty and very existence of our spiritual lives. If one isn't careful, bad soil, pests, predators, parasites, dryness, and weeds can be very destructive. We will only bear fruit if we are pruned of everything unhealthy to our souls, and we must be sure to cling fast to the vine of Christ who strengthens us.



Our spiritual lives are dependent on the gift of Divine Grace and our souls are nourished and sustained by the love of Christ. It is vital that we trust Him with our whole hearts to do whatever is needed in our lives for our best growth. We must trust Christ and always stick close to Him.

As much as plants need air, sunshine, and water, a branch is just as reliant upon the vine. Without the vine – Jesus – our souls will shrivel and die. Letting go of our own selfish wills – by fully surrendering to God's Holy Will and trusting His pruning and weeding in our lives – will surely help our souls blossom, bear fruit, and become all we were made to be by our Father.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † How can you welcome and accept God's pruning when it feels so unpleasant?
- † In what ways is God pruning and shaping you into His Image?
- † Do you see the difference this pruning is making in your walk with Christ?
- † How can we ensure that God gets the glory for our fruit?

APRENDE TU FE

Encontrarse con Cristo Resucitado desde el corazón de María

Reflexiones María

¿Qué sentía María en esos momentos? ¿qué pensaba? ¿qué recuerdos le venían a la memoria? ¿qué le decía a Jesús? ¿cuál era su experiencia interior?



Por: P Evaristo Sada LC | Fuente: www.la-oracion.com

Los seres humanos tenemos capacidad de sintonizar con los sentimientos de otra persona, penetrarlos y hasta cierto punto apropiarlos. Podemos ponernos en el lugar del otro, comprender sus emociones y sentimientos y sentir juntamente con él.

Es posible conectar con el otro y participar de su experiencia interior. Esto abre un mundo maravilloso en la vida de oración. Con la ayuda de la gracia, es un modo de hacer oración contemplativa.

Ciertamente la empatía tiene sus límites, pues la experiencia personal será siempre personal; las vivencias de cada uno serán siempre propias y únicas.

¿En qué consiste esta "oración por empatía"?

Por ejemplo, en este tiempo litúrgico, consiste en centrar nuestra atención en la Virgen María y tratar de sintonizar con los sentimientos de María durante la pasión, muerte y resurrección de Jesús. He empleado esta modalidad de oración durante el triduo pascual y lo sigo aplicando ahora en la pascua. Me está ayudando mucho.

Tratar de meterse al corazón de la Madre de Jesús y Madre nuestra mientras en silencio y soledad acompaña a su Hijo en cada momento de su pasión y en su resurrección. Algunas preguntas que ayudan: ¿qué sentía María en esos momentos? ¿qué pensaba? ¿qué recuerdos le venían a la memoria? ¿qué le decía a Jesús? ¿qué escuchaba? ¿cuáles eran sus actitudes? ¿cuál era su experiencia interior?

Detenerse en cada paso, sin prisa. Un día se puede tomar una escena, otro día otra. O permanecer durante varios días en la que más ayude a cada uno. Este modo de orar supone un fuerte cultivo de la capacidad de escucha.

Se trata de contemplar y sentir profundo

No hacen falta muchos pensamientos, se trata de contemplar y sentir profundo, identificándose con la oración de María: durante la última cena, durante la oración en el huerto, cuando fue apesado, cuando estaba en la cárcel, cuando fue condenado a muerte, cuando subía el Calvario con la cruz a cuestas, cuando fue crucificado, durante su agonía, cuando expiró, cuando resucitó, cuando encontró a María en el huerto, cuando se apareció a los suyos...

Gozar con Cristo Resucitado desde el corazón de María

Desde el Sábado Santo me ha ayudado mucho gozar con Cristo Resucitado desde el corazón de su Madre.

En la resurrección de Jesús confluyen:

1. **El amor del Padre** que lleno de conmoción vio morir a su Hijo diciendo: "Todo está cumplido" (Jn 19,30), "Padre, en tus manos encomiendo mi espíritu" (Lc 23,45). Con la Resurrección, el Padre respondió a la súplica de Jesús en el huerto: ¡Abbá, Padre!; todo es posible para ti; aparta de mi este cáliz (Mc 14,36).
2. **El poder del Espíritu de amor** que hace nuevas todas las cosas (Ap 21,5)
3. **La pasión de amor de Cristo por el hombre** que quiere permanecer siempre a su lado: "Yo estaré con vosotros hasta la consumación de los tiempos." (Mt 28,20)

Y María participa en la Resurrección de Cristo con su dolor y su esperanza

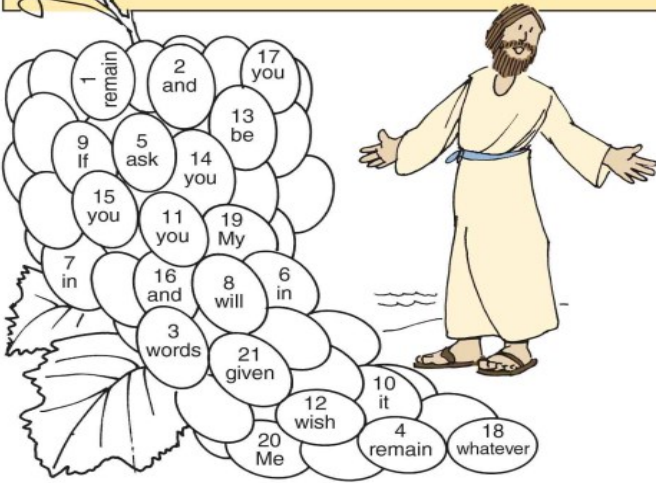
Con la muerte de Jesús parecía fracasar la esperanza de cuantos confiaron en Él. Aquella fe nunca dejó de faltar completamente, sobre todo en el corazón de la Virgen María, la Madre de Jesús, la llama quedó encendida con viveza también en la oscuridad de la noche. (Benedicto XVI, 8 de abril de 2012) y a través de la experiencia transformante de la Pascua de su Hijo, se convierte en Madre de la Iglesia, o sea, de cada uno de los creyentes y de toda la comunidad. (Benedicto XVI, Regina Coeli, 9 de abril 2012)

¡Qué fácil es gozar con Cristo Resucitado desde el corazón de su Madre mientras le contempla vivo y glorioso!



Jesus said something for all of us.

Write the words from the grapes on the lines below.



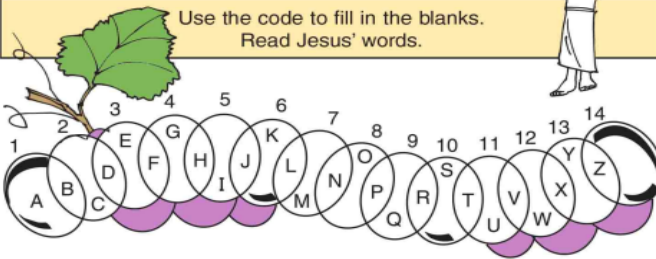
“ 9 15 4 7 20
 16 19 3 1 6 17
 5 18 11 12
 2 10 8 13 21 14 ”

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We need to be connected to God!



Use the code to fill in the blanks. Read Jesus' words.



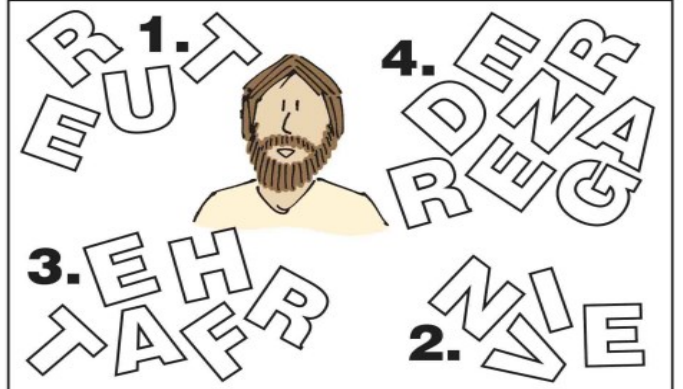
“ 7,8 8 1,2 9,10 1 7,8 2 4,5
 2 1 7,8 1,2 3 1 9,10
 3,4 9,10 11 5 10,11
 1,2 13 5 10,11 10 3 6,7 3,4
 5 10,11 7 11 10 10,11
 9,10 3 7 1 5 7,8
 5 7,8 10,11 4,5 3 11,12 5 7,8 3 ”



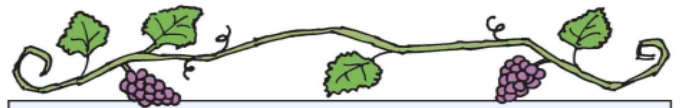
The Vine and the Branches

Jesus tells us something about Himself. What does He say?

Unscramble the letters. Write the words on the correct lines.



Jesus said, "I am the _____,
 and My _____ is the _____."



Follow the arrows through the letters to find Jesus' words.

Jesus said,

“ I
 ↑ → ↖ → ↘
 ↓ ↗ ↖ → → ↓ ↘
 ↓ ↗ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↖
 ↓ ← ↑
 ↑ ↖ ↓ ↓ ↓ ← ↑ ↑ ”



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