

# 5th Sunday of Easter



**6400 Nativity Lane,  
Burke, Virginia 22015**  
[nativityburke.org](http://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 Pagoda, 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  
[mturner@ccda.net](mailto:mturner@ccda.net)



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

**SUNDAY MASSES:** 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass  
7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass in Spanish  
7:00 a.m./9:00 a.m./11:00 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:**  
Caroline Chase, [bulletin@nativityburke.org](mailto:bulletin@nativityburke.org)

**WEBMASTER:**  
Emilia Hartline, [webmaster@nativityburke.org](mailto:webmaster@nativityburke.org)

**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**



My dear parishioners,

Despite the continuing violence and disruption in Haiti, we have been able to bring our 15th Nativity Village close to completion. Nativity Village at Bois-Louroux adds 40 new homes to the nearly 1,600 homes we have provided, in partnership with Food For The Poor. Hundreds of families in Haiti are living with new hope because we were there for them. As we remember Fr. Richard Martin today, on the 12th anniversary of his return to God, we remain thankful for his vision in starting Operation Starfish 28 years ago.

When Fr. Martin, Nativity’s former pastor, began Operation Starfish in 1998, he could not have imagined that his simple idea of saving 50 cents a day during the 40 days of Lent could make such a difference. He wanted to make the Lenten sacrifice more meaningful and help us turn toward the poor. It has been a blessing for me to have been able build on this foundation and join our parishioners on mission trips, add more self-sustaining components to our villages, and expand the work of Operation Starfish to Jamaica and Honduras.

With the completion of our 4th medical clinic in Honduras, we will be sending another group of parishioners there this summer to explore the possibility of developing a Nativity Village community, our first in this Central American country. And Another student in Jamaica will attend the University of the West Indies in 2026 under an Operation Starfish scholarship.

I am so very grateful to you, our Nativity parishioners, for your compassion, generosity and commitment to serving the poor. You are truly the hands and feet of Christ in this world.

On this 12th anniversary of Fr. Martin’s return to God, let us recommit ourselves in the words of Pope Leo XIV *“to make a decisive and radical choice in favor of the weakest.”*

Love and Blessings,

*Bob Cilinski*

Msgr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

**SECURITY MINISTRY**

Last Sunday we began a Security Ministry at Nativity. Its purpose is to create a safe, welcoming environment during our worship.

A highly trained, discreet two-person team will be present at every Sunday Mass. They will combine professional security practice with a ministry heart, preventing issues and responding effectively when needed.

One change is: **when Mass begins the side doors of the church will be locked.** You can always go out, but those coming to Mass will use the front doors in the Narthex. It provides good protection and is now a best practice for houses of worship.

We are grateful to our security ministers for their service while we all participate in Mass and care for one another. Thank you.



**OPERATION STARFISH 1998 – 2026  
MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR 28 YEARS**  
*“Love for the poor...is the evangelical hallmark of a Church faithful to the heart of God” - Pope Leo XIV*

This weekend, we remember Fr. Richard Martin, our former pastor, on the 12th anniversary of his return to God. We also commemorate 28 years of Operation Starfish, our international ministry to the poor. Begun in 1998, with Fr. Martin’s vision to make the Lenten sacrifice more meaningful, Operation Starfish has helped us grow in our love for the poor. By the time Fr. Martin died in 2014, our parish, working with Food For The Poor, had developed 9 Nativity Villages in Haiti.

Under the leadership of Msgr. Bob Cilinski, Nativity has completed 6 additional villages, including our latest - Nativity Village at Bois Louroux. In total, nearly 1,600 homes have been built in our Nativity Village projects. In addition, Operation Starfish has developed ocean fishing co-op’s, freshwater fish farms, clinics, schools, sewing centers, midwife training programs and other projects throughout Haiti. In recent years, violence and disruption has reduced the scope of work we can accomplish in Haiti. But just recently, Food For The Poor CEO Ed Raine returned from Cap Haitien with news that US base staff can resume travel to Haiti after a 6 year hiatus. Much of our work in Haiti is now taking place in the north, where conditions are better.

In Jamaica, we have sponsored 4 medical students through an arrangement with the University of the West Indies Medical School. This year we are funding a physical therapy program at the Golden Age Home, a facility for poor elderly residents, which our mission trips have visited in the past. And in Honduras, we have now built 4 medical clinics. Our mission trips have visited 2 of the clinics and this summer we will survey a possible Nativity Village project in Honduras. We also continue to support the Missionary Sisters of Christ the King, who operate Cardinal Leger Leper Hospital in Haiti.

With all the turmoil and unrest in the world, Nativity parishioners have never lost the vision of Fr. Martin. We continue to make a difference, one person at a time. We remember Fr. Martin this weekend, we join with Msgr. Cilinski, our clergy, religious, staff and fellow parishioners to remember him and recommit ourselves to serving the poor, across the street and around the world.



**Monthly Sensory Mass: Sunday, May 10th at 1:00 pm**

In an effort to embrace and welcome the neurodiverse members of our community, Nativity Catholic Church is hosting a monthly Sensory Mass on the second Sunday of every month at the 1:00 pm Mass. All are welcome to attend!

A special invitation is extended to any person in need of sensory accommodations. A sensory Mass requires a welcoming stigma-free environment and accommodations to help reduce over-stimulation and sensory overload. We also invite you to join us after the Sensory Mass for coffee, donuts, and fellowship in the cafeteria.

If you would like to learn more about the Monthly Sensory Mass please email Tracey Hulen, Disability Inclusion Coordinator at [thulen@nativityburke.org](mailto:thulen@nativityburke.org).

# *Congratulations to our 2026 Newly Confirmed Students*



Bella Amaya Jimenez  
Gabrielle Amos  
Aiden Matthew Angeles  
Isabelle Armijos  
Kurt Atkisson  
Mateo Balmaceda  
Hannah Barry  
Audrey Battaglia  
Claire Beckner  
Joshua Berona  
Kendall Bledsoe  
Piper Boland  
Milad Bonner  
Kieran Brady  
Sabrina Brady  
Liam Bridon  
Adalin Brill  
Caroline Busch  
Michael Cantu  
Charles Carnaggio  
Matthew Celio  
Elinor Chambers  
Emilia Chambers  
Kamila Chavez-Lizama  
Kaiya Chisholm  
Parker Clancy  
Quinn Clarke  
Nathan Cleary  
Eva Colon  
Joaquin Condori  
Arjun Conklin  
Reed Conques

Natalie Cosenza  
Austin Craig  
Rania Crow  
Livvie Cuomo  
Fatima I. Dominguez Arauz  
Colin Donahoe  
John Dudek  
Ariana Duller  
Ivie Ebeigbe  
Spencer Eck  
Benjamin Epping-Buelna  
Valentina Estrada Meola  
Lillie Eways  
Lilliana Firvida  
Catherine Fister  
Ciara Foley  
Nathan Formagus  
Ryan Gallagher  
Wade Gallagher  
Julia Gallton  
Felipe Garcia  
Mikaela Garcia  
Owen Gideon  
Adelyn Gideon  
Genesis Gonzalez  
Alexis Goodman  
Ryan Goodman  
Benjamin Greig  
Noelle Guynes  
Mark Hagerman  
Siona Hagerman  
Molly Hegblom  
Sabrina Henry  
Peyton Herbst  
Matthew Hernandez  
Lillian Hezel  
William Hiscock  
Madeline Hodges  
Cecelia Hoppock  
Sienna Howell  
Nathan Hulen  
Jacqueline Hull  
Elliot Ivie  
Isabella Izaguirre  
Matthew Jaramillo

Alyssa Kady  
Owen Kelley  
John Kerr  
Bernadette Rose Kershes O'Brien  
Matthew Kershes O'Brien  
Michael Kettner  
Anna Kosowski  
William La  
Claire Langan  
Clark Lanter  
Sophie-Marie Lee  
Bernadette Loeffert  
Tyson Lopez  
Samantha Mahns  
Giana Marin  
Evelyn Mason  
Zoe Mason  
Molly McCullough  
Lucy McKeon  
Evelyn McShea  
Carina Menacho  
Clara Merante  
Solomon Merriweather  
Noah Miller  
Lydia Moeller  
Sophia Montero  
Matthew Morosco  
Grace Morris  
Javier Munoz  
McCartney Murphy  
Marie-Joelle Navarro-McElwain  
Regina Navas Chaparro  
Logan Nguyen  
Kayden Nguyen  
Evelyn Nguyen  
Holly Nguyen  
Hailey Nowak  
Hayleigh Wren Occidental  
Zane Olweiler  
Thomas Opsut  
Samuel Ortegon  
Evelyn Paredes  
Kaitlyn Patrick  
Azrael Paz  
Mateo Perez-Stucchi

Nicholas Peters  
Rose Petre  
Wesley Phillips  
Oliver Pitotti  
Blake Pleva  
Santiago Andres Porres  
Mia Portillo  
Leah Pounder  
Lucy Rafnson  
Hadley Regan  
Luke Regan  
Ashley Reyes Cruz  
Jillian Rios  
Leonardo Rodriguez  
Cameron Roehrig  
Anya Simone Romano  
Megan Roseberry  
Loretta Ross  
Victor Sakran  
Lauren Saravia  
Lucy Saunders  
Brodan Scarola  
Julia Sidebottom  
Avery Smith  
Emmeline Smith  
Joseph Sommar  
Mattie Stoltzfus  
Abigial Suarez  
Ryan Sumangil  
Jacob Talley  
Genevieve Taphorn  
David Thibodeau  
Reagan Tiernan  
Miguel Torrico  
Katherine Tramel  
Ivan Varillas  
Fabio Vasquez Aguilar  
Macy Whitis  
Andrew Williams  
Sofia Yildirim  
Samuel Yurgil



*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)



**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.



**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO:**

*Mother's day Pop-up Market at Nativity*

Shop, Celebrate & Spoil Mom! Join us for our Mother's Day Pop-Up Market! Find the perfect gift with unique, handmade, and boutique-style items from amazing local vendors. Whether you're shopping for Mom, Grandma, or someone special, there's something for everyone to love.

Enjoy:

- Artisan crafts & handmade jewelry
- Skincare & nail services
- Teas, coffee & delicious treats

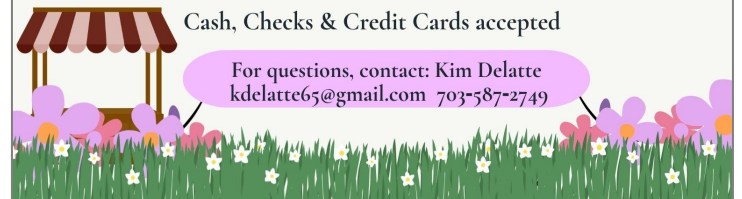
Don't miss this fun and festive shopping experience!

**When: Saturday, May 9th | 12:00 pm–4:00 pm**

**Where: School Cafeteria**

Cash, Checks & Credit Cards accepted

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



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

Attention Please!

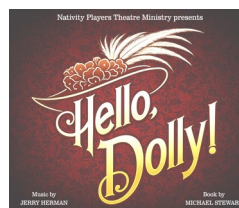
**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**CALENDAR OPENING FOR**  
**July 1 thru December 31, 2026**

The JUL-DEC 2026 Mass Intentions Calendar will open on Wednesday, May 20 at 9:00 am. We are limiting the requests to 5 intentions per family/household per calendar year.

You can visit the parish office to schedule intentions.

The online portal to schedule Mass Intentions will open on Tuesday, May 26 at 9:00 am. Please be patient & courteous as we try to honor all requests. Unfortunately we are not able to take phone requests. If you have additional questions, please email Ana Gonzalez at [agonzalez@nativityburke.org](mailto:agonzalez@nativityburke.org).

<https://nativityburke.org/mass-intentions/>



**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)**

**ECHO Collection THIS 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.*



ASSOCIATES OF  
SAINT JOHN  
— BOSCO —

**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.**

**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



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

**Monday, May 4**

7:30 am † Ross Merulla  
12:00 pm † The Yau Family

**Tuesday, May 5**

7:30 am † Louis & Edith Kane  
12:00 pm † Ernesto Chandeck

**Wednesday, May 6**

7:30 am † Anthony Miles Jr.  
3:00 pm † Jerry Reyes (Sunrise)

**Thursday, May 7**

7:30 am † Richard O'Brien  
12:00 pm † Robin Barron

**Friday, May 8**

7:30 am † Fr. Julius Cilinski

**Saturday, May 9**

9:00 am † Rico G. Robles  
5:00 pm † David Lynch  
7:00 pm Nativity Parishioners

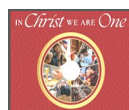
**Sunday, May 10**

7:00 am † Ann DiRenzo  
9:00 am † John Osborn Frazee  
11:00 am Mother's Day Novena  
1:00 pm † Norma Peraldo (Sensory)  
5:30 pm † Joan Boos

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

**ROSARY MINISTRY MEETING**

Please join us on Tuesday, May 19 from 1:00-3:00pm in the Fr. Ready Room. You don't need to be crafty! We will teach you to make Mission Rosaries that are sent all over the world. All supplies are provided! Most learn within an hour and then you are sent home with all the supplies you need to make more rosaries. Our meetings always begin with the recitation of the rosary. If you have any questions, contact the [rosaryministry@nativityburke.org](mailto:rosaryministry@nativityburke.org).



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



We're so close to our \$840,000 BLA dollar goal but still need your participation to get us there. Any amount works! As of April 23, our pledges and one-time donations total \$782,869 with about one in six of our Nativity families participating. Giving is easy at [www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla) or just use the QR code here. BLA envelopes are also available at church. Your support greatly helps the many charities, ministries, and programs throughout the Diocese and so much here at Nativity. Thank you once again and may God bless you for your sacrificial gift.



Chaplain:  
**Fr. Jonathan Bennett**

Contact: [info@commissionedbychrist.org](mailto:info@commissionedbychrist.org) | (571)-699-3339

# Pilgrimage to **EL CAMINO - SPAIN**

## The Way of St. James

### September 7 - 17, 2026

Join us on this adventurous walking Pilgrimage on the Portuguese Route of the Way of St. James, also known as El Camino. Begin in Porto for this 11 day journey that will span 160 miles, 75 of them, walked by you! The Pilgrimage will be led by a Fr. Jonathan Bennett who will say Mass daily and be available for Spiritual Direction throughout, as well as a local professional guide who will lead you through the Portuguese countryside, stopping at significant churches and sites along the way. Along the way, you will walk through tranquil woods, farmland, peaceful hamlets, and gorgeous riverside towns. Travel through cities like Braga, O Porriño, Redoncela, Pontevedra, Caldas de Reis, Padron, and finally finish in Santiago de Compostela at the final resting place of St. James the Apostle. This walking pilgrimage will immerse you into Portuguese culture, deepen your connection to St. James and your faith, and surely plant seeds that will bear spiritual fruit for years to come.

Book Now:  
[www.206tours.com/cbc/](http://www.206tours.com/cbc/)

Booking Code: CBC090726



NATIVITY STARS  
**GALA & AUCTION**  
Saturday, May 16, 2026 | 6:30 pm | Fr. Martin Center

## *Class Basket Raffle Sale!*

May 2/3 • May 9/10

Don't miss your chance to win big at the 2026 Nativity Stars Gala & Auction! We have our themed baskets for every interest, curated by each class from Preschool to 8th grade. Each one is packed with unique treats and surprises you have to see to believe!

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

♦ Gala Tickets [still available](https://nativityschool.org/gala) - <https://nativityschool.org/gala>





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

**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"*



# TRIVIA NIGHT

## ? THANK YOU FOR COMING!!!!





Thank you to everyone who joined us for Trivia Night! It was a fantastic evening filled with fun, teamwork, and great energy. We hope you all enjoyed yourselves and walked away having learned something new!

**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



**YOUTH MINISTRY SUMMER CAMPS**

Signups are now available for Vacation Bible Camp and Camp On The Edge. VBC and COTE run Tuesday June 30th-Friday July 3rd. 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!

**Inova™** Inova Blood Donor Services

**St. Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church Blood Drive**

**Saturday, May 9, 2026**

**7 a.m. – 12 p.m.**  
**Parish Hall**  
8750 Pohick Rd., Springfield, VA




**Contact**  
**Mark Maslyn**  
(202) 679-3293 | [mam7253@msn.com](mailto:mam7253@msn.com)

**All donors will receive a Heroes Supporting Heroes appreciation gift\*.**

Photo ID required. Allow one hour for your donation. \*While supplies last. Quantities are limited. Must complete screening process to receive giveaway.

**Book your appointment today!**  
Visit <https://bit.ly/StRaymond0509>  
Call 1.866.256.6372, use code 6099



InovaBlood.org

**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>



**ST. LUCY FOOD DRIVE**  
Feeding the Hungry; Nourishing the Soul



PLEASE  
**DONATE**

--- SATURDAY, JUNE 6<sup>th</sup> | 9AM-1PM ---

Nativity Parish Parking Lot

A "Drive-By/Drop-Off" food drive  
Please place your donations in your trunk

**FOOD ITEMS MOST NEEDED**

- Canned Meat (tuna and chicken)
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Pasta & Pasta Sauce
- Canned Pasta (ravioli)
- Hearty Soups
- Cereal & Oatmeal
- Canned Veggies
- Canned Fruit

**Please no glass containers**

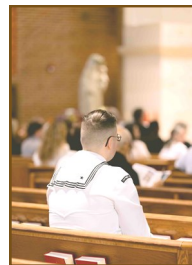
DRIVE UP AND DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS! THE ST. LUCY TEAM WILL ASSIST YOU!

**GIFT CARDS AND MONETARY GIFTS ALSO ACCEPTED**  
Checks can be made out to "CCDA" with "The St. Lucy Project" in the memo

**32nd Annual Memorial Mass of the Archdiocese for the Military Services - Sunday, May 17 2026**

The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D., Archbishop for the Military Services, USA, cordially invites you and your guests to attend the 32nd Annual Memorial Mass of the Archdiocese for the Military Services at 4:30 pm in the Great Upper Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Together with the priests of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, please join in prayer as the men and women who are serving or have served in the Armed Forces, especially those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, are honored.



- The schedule of events will be as follows:  
Sacrament of Penance at 2:30- 3:30 pm  
Rosary at 3:00 pm in the Crypt Church  
Solemn Vespers at 4:00pm  
Holy Mass at 4:30 pm
- Reception to follow the Mass in the dining area immediately below the main floor of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

- Dress: Civilian – Business Attire  
Military Equivalent
- For reserved seating at the Mass, please register by May 8th
- If you have intentions to be remembered at the altar, please submit them to [www.milarch.org/intentions](http://www.milarch.org/intentions)

**CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN**  
Second Collection next weekend

Social media has revolutionized how Catholics present the timeless and hopeful message of the Gospel—not only the means and style of communication, but also the type of content that best reaches the public and creates lasting impressions. When people feel lonely or isolated, they seek personal connections, authenticity, and stories of hope that show how the Gospel is a living and transformative message.

Using support received through CCC, the USCCB’s Office of Public Affairs creates personal, informal videos in which bishops describe both their pastoral work and their daily lives as pastoral leaders. These short videos, produced specifically for social media, introduce the bishops and invite them to reflect on their favorite saints, the significance of liturgical seasons, and personal moments in their lives, such as their vocation stories and experiences of receiving the news that they were named a bishop.

These videos are an example of how CCC enables the bishops of the United States to bring their message of hope to the public in relatable ways that resonate and foster connection with the faithful. The CCC also supports the Daily Readings page on the USCCB website, which helps users follow along with the biblical texts proclaimed at Mass and aids their prayer and meditation on Sacred Scripture.

When you participate in your diocese’s collection for CCC, half of your gift supports these national efforts, and the other half stays in your own diocese to support local communication programs that bring the Gospel to you and your neighbors.

For more information about the collection and the projects it supports, visit [www.usccb.org/ccc](http://www.usccb.org/ccc). To support the national efforts of CCC with an online donation, please use this QR code or visit #iGiveCatholic at [igivecatholic.org/story/USCCB-CC](http://igivecatholic.org/story/USCCB-CC).



© USCCB Staff



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)



**JULY 13-24, 2026**

**SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS**

~ SUMMER CAMPS ~

[SpotlightSummerCamps.com](http://SpotlightSummerCamps.com)

Manassas, VA | Burke, VA

**BROADWAY SPOTLIGHT**

**DRAMA BOOTCAMP**

**ARTS & CRAFTS FUN**

**ART EXPLORER**

### PRO-LIFE CORNER

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

**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.

**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>.

**Virginia Bishops Oppose Extreme Abortion Amendment:** A proposal to add an extreme and deadly “fundamental right” to abortion to Virginia’s constitution is virtually certain to proceed to a referendum. The inevitable and alarming reality is that Virginia voters will be faced with this ballot question sometime in 2026 – either during a special election in the spring or during the general election in November. The exact timing of the referendum will be determined by the General Assembly in January. This radical amendment goes far beyond even what Roe v. Wade previously allowed. It would enshrine virtually unlimited abortion at any stage of pregnancy, with no age restriction. Among numerous other problems, it would severely jeopardize Virginia’s parental consent law, conscience protections for healthcare providers, health and safety standards for women, and restrictions on taxpayer-funded abortions. Most tragically of all, the extreme abortion amendment provides no protections whatsoever for preborn children. Parental rights must be defended. So too must religious liberty. No one should ever be forced to pay for or participate in an abortion. Health and safety should be enhanced, not diminished. Most importantly, human life is sacred. The lives of vulnerable women and their preborn children must always be welcomed, cared for, and protected. We urge all Virginians to oppose this extreme amendment, and to pray and fast for the conversion of minds and hearts in the months leading up to this singularly critical vote. For more information about the amendment and what you can do to stop it, please visit [vacatholic.org/Amendment](http://vacatholic.org/Amendment).

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



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

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

**St. Lucy Summer Food Drive:**  
**Saturday, June 6th from 9:00AM-1:00PM**

The St. Lucy Summer Food Drive will take place from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday, 6 June to support Catholic Charities in its campaign against hunger in the Diocese. The St. Lucy truck will be parked at the rear of the church parking lot nearest Old Keene Mill Road (like in the previous food drives). During that time, you can drive to the truck and our team will take any donations from your vehicle (please place your donations in your trunk for safe and easy removal). Catholic Charities also accepts monetary donations, especially grocery gift cards (Giant, Safeway, etc.); any donation is welcome! Please make any checks out to CCDA, with “St. Lucy Project” in the memo line. If you have questions, please email the St. Lucy Team at [nativity.stlucyteam@gmail.com](mailto:nativity.stlucyteam@gmail.com). Thank you and God bless you!



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



*Nativity Career Day ~  
Exploring the Possibilities!*

\*\*\*\*\*

Career Day here at Nativity is one of our students' favorites – it's a peek into what their futures could hold. Our students got to spend time with a group of parents skilled in an array of different occupations, i.e, a small business owner; a Children's Book author; a Cardiology nurse practitioner; an IT Manager for the US Senate; a research physiologist, Veterans Affairs; an Air Force Pilot; a Space and Flight Test Engineer; a K-9 Officer with the Arlington Police Department; a Business Risk Management/Fraud Investigator; Chief of Staff, for a US House Member, and a product and corporate strategist in the Telecommunications Industry. From brainstorming a children's book, to jumping into exercise class, to discovering what it takes to fly a jet, or training and caring for a police dog, our students left this event excited and open to even more possibilities for their futures.

A great big thank you to Julie Wilson and Elaine Vrooman for organizing this informative – and fun! – event. Special thanks to those who shared their stories with our teachers and students: Monica Stoltzfus, Katie Mueller, Nicholette Dunleavy, Andrew & Stacey Ivie, Chelsea Kemlage, Maria Slahetka, Jared Gollie, Senait Tewolde, Lincoln Bonner, Rebecca Keightley, and Robert Hegblom.



\*\*\*\*\*

**Important Upcoming Dates ~**  
May 4 - 8 - Teacher Appreciation Week  
May 25 - No School/Memorial Day



**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!

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

**9 May:** The Knights of Columbus, in coordination with INOVA Blood Service, will conduct the Spring Blood Drive from 7:00am to noon at Saint Raymond Catholic Church. Currently less than 38% of our population is eligible to donate blood. If you are eligible to donate blood signup online at: [https://www.inovabloodsaves.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/35729](https://www.inovabloodsaves.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/35729) or after Mass in the Narthex on May 2nd or 3rd. The blood banks need our help, please consider giving the gift of life.

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

**YARD SALE IS COMING! SUG** is live for Area Leads, others to follow for volunteers. Please support this annual event!

**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 [handyknightsfnativity@gmail.com](mailto:handyknightsfnativity@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).

**Annual Multi-Car Raffle**

We're thrilled to share that one of our Nativity parishioners won the coveted Ford Mustang this year—congratulations!

Be sure to check out the complete list of winners here: <https://allsaintsvachurch.org/giving/car-affle/>.

Thank you for your incredible generosity and support of this year's raffle. Your participation helps make a meaningful difference, benefiting our parish and the charitable works of the Knights of Columbus.

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



Recruit 5 friends and receive a \$50 gift card!



ASSOCIATES of  
**SAINT JOHN**  
— BOSCO —

To register for **FREE**,  
visit [ASJB.org](http://ASJB.org) or scan the  
QR code:



## 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!

*"Whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I do." (John 14:12)*

Jesus calls us to remain in Him, allowing His love to flow through our lives. In sacramental marriage, couples are like branches rooted in Christ, growing together and bearing fruit for His kingdom through love, support, and service to one another. Pray for guidance in nurturing your vocation and encourage others to recognize God's call. Should you desire some direction, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (703) 841-2514 or via email: [vocations@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org).

## 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!



## 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](mailto:csands@nativityburke.org) to schedule a visit.



CHESTERTON ACADEMY  
OF CHRIST THE KING

Opening Fall 2026  
Alexandria, Virginia

Chesterton Academy of Christ the King, a small co-ed classical high school that is part of the international Chesterton Schools Network, will be opening at St. Lawrence Catholic Church this fall. Chesterton Academies are known for their strong Catholic identity anchored in daily school Mass, rigorous classical curriculum, screen-free socratic seminar format, and affordable tuition. Visit [Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org](http://Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org) to learn more or to apply. Limited spaces remain for rising freshmen for the 2026-2027 school year.

## PARKING SAFETY REMINDER

For the safety of all, please **DO NOT** park in fire lanes, along the yellow lines or in the travel lanes of the driveways at Nativity. In case of emergency, first responder vehicles must have access to our buildings. Knowing that parking is at a premium at our weekend Masses, your cooperation and concern for other's safety is appreciated!!

**THANK YOU!**

## Gifts for Seminarian Education Endowment Fund (SEEF)

Please support our seminarians and SEEF, a permanent endowment fund established in 2011. SEEF's income provides funding for annual seminarian expenses such as room, board, tuition, health insurance and books, which total almost \$45,000 per seminarian. Please give generously!

To donate, make checks payable to: "Foundation for the CDA - SEEF." Mail to: The Foundation, 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203. Questions: contact John French at [john.french@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:john.french@arlingtondiocese.org) or (703) 841-3819.

## Are you registered in the Parish?

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



**SUMMER CAMPS**





at St. Paul VI Catholic High School



Camps are available for students in (rising) grades 2 through 9. There are various camps this summer, including baseball, basketball, theatre, football, field hockey, lacrosse, pops band, soccer, tennis, and more.

**42341 Braddock Road, Chantilly, VA**



 **SCAN ME**




**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](http://conference.christendom.edu) or scan the QR code to register.



 Cathedral Concerts

# HE IS RISEN INDEED!



 Scan Me

A joyful Easter concert featuring the Cathedral Choir and a chamber orchestra performing works by J. S. Bach, J. M. Haydn, W. A. Mozart, and more

## Sunday, May 3 at 3:30 pm

Cathedral of Saint Thomas More  
3901 Cathedral Lane  
Arlington, Virginia

# ARISE, MY BELOVED, AND COME.

SONG OF SONGS 22

*A lectio divina-based  
discernment retreat*

FOR SINGLE WOMEN 18-35



**JUNE 19-21, 2026**

STARTS FRIDAY 6:00 PM  
FINISHES SUNDAY 1:00 PM

*San Damiano  
Retreat Center*

\$150 INCLUDES PRIVATE ROOM  
& ALL MEALS

SPONSORED BY THE OFFICE  
OF VOCATIONS WITH THE  
LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

## *Contact*

[vocations@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org)  
or 703-841-3829 for information  
and registration.

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:  
JUNE 8**



## V Domingo de Pascua, Ciclo A

### Juan 14, 1-12: La respuesta cristiana a la pregunta humana más inquietante

Autor: P. Raniero Cantalamessa, ofmcap

Sitio Web: [P. Raniero Cantalamessa, ofmcap](#)

#### Hechos 6, 1-7; 1 Pedro 2, 4-9; Juan 14, 1-12

En el libro del Génesis se lee que después del pecado Dios dijo al Hombre: «Con el sudor de tu rostro comerás el pan, hasta que vuelvas al suelo, pues de él fuiste tomado. Porque eres polvo y al polvo tornarás» (Gn 3, 19). Cada año, el miércoles de Ceniza, la liturgia nos repite esta severa advertencia: «Recuerda que polvo eres y en polvo te has de convertir». Si dependiera de mí, haría desaparecer de inmediato esta fórmula de la liturgia. Justamente ahora la Iglesia permite sustituirla con la otra: «Convertios y creed en el Evangelio». Tomada a la letra, sin las debidas explicaciones, aquellas palabras son de hecho la expresión perfecta del ateísmo científico moderno: el hombre no es más que una polvareda de átomos que se resolverá, al final, en otra polvareda de átomos.

El Qohélet [Eclesiastés. ndt], un libro de la Biblia escrito en una época de crisis de las certezas religiosas en Israel, parece confirmar esta interpretación atea cuando escribe: «Todos caminan hacia una misma meta; todos han salido del polvo y todos vuelven al polvo. ¿Quién sabe si el aliento de vida de los humanos asciende hacia arriba y si el aliento de vida de la bestia desciende hacia abajo, a la tierra?» (Qo 3, 20-21). Al final del libro, esta última terrible duda (quién sabe si hay diferencia entre la suerte final del hombre y la del animal) parece resuelta positivamente, porque el autor dice que «vuelva el polvo a la tierra, a lo que era, y el espíritu vuelva a Dios que es quien lo dio» (Qo 12, 7). En los últimos escritos del Antiguo Testamento empieza, es verdad, a abrirse camino la idea de una recompensa de los justos después de la muerte, y hasta la de una resurrección de los cuerpos, pero es una creencia aún bastante vaga en el contenido y no compartida por todos, por ejemplo, por los saduceos.

En este contexto podemos valorar la novedad de las palabras con las que empieza el Evangelio del domingo: «No se turbe vuestro corazón. Creéis en Dios; creed también en mí. En la casa de mi Padre hay muchas mansiones; si no, os lo habría dicho; porque voy a prepararos un lugar. Y cuando haya ido y os haya preparado un lugar, volveré y os tomaré conmigo, para que donde esté yo, estéis también vosotros». Contienen la respuesta cristiana a la más inquietante de las preguntas humanas. Morir no es --como estaba en los inicios de la Biblia y en el mundo pagano-- bajar al Seól o al Hades para llevar allí una vida de larvas o de sombras; no es --como para ciertos biólogos ateos-- restituir a la naturaleza el propio material orgánico para un ulterior uso por parte de otros seres vivos; tampoco es --como en ciertas formas de religiosidad actuales que se inspiran en doctrinas orientales (con frecuencia mal entendidas)-- disolverse como persona en el gran mar de la conciencia universal, en el Todo o, según los casos, en la Nada... Es en cambio ir a estar con Cristo en el seno del Padre, ser donde Él es.

El velo del misterio no se ha levantado porque *no puede* suprimirse. Igual que no se puede describir qué es el color a un ciego de nacimiento o el sonido a un sordo, tampoco se puede explicar qué es una vida fuera del tiempo y del espacio a quien aún está en el tiempo y en el espacio. No es Dios quien ha querido mantenernos en la oscuridad... Nos ha dicho, sin embargo, lo esencial: la vida eterna será una comunión plena, alma y cuerpo, con Cristo resucitado, compartir su gloria y su gozo.

El Papa Benedicto XVI, en su reciente encíclica sobre la esperanza (*Spe salvi*), reflexiona sobre la naturaleza de la vida eterna desde un punto de vista también existencial. Comienza observando que hay personas que no desean en absoluto una vida eterna, que incluso tienen miedo. ¿Para qué sirve --se preguntan-- prolongar una existencia que se ha revelado llena de problemas y de sufrimientos?

La razón de este temor, explica el Papa, es que no se logra pensar en la vida más que en los modos que conocemos aquí abajo; mientras que se trata, sí, de vida, pero sin todas las limitaciones que experimentamos en el presente. La vida eterna --dice la Encíclica--, será sumergirse en el océano del amor infinito, en el cual el tiempo --el antes y el después-- ya no existe. No será un continuo sucederse de días del calendario, sino como el momento pleno de satisfacción, en el cual la totalidad nos abraza y nosotros abrazamos la totalidad.

Con estas palabras el Papa alude tal vez, tácitamente, a la obra de un famoso compatriota suyo. El ideal del *Fausto* de Goethe es de hecho precisamente alcanzar tal plenitud de vida y tal satisfacción que le haga exclamar: «Detente, instante: ¡eres tan bello!». Creo que ésta es la idea menos inadecuada que podemos hacernos de la vida eterna: un instante que desearíamos que no acabara nunca y que --a diferencia de todos los instantes de felicidad de aquí abajo-- ino terminará jamás! Me vienen a la memoria las palabras de uno de los cantos más amados por los cristianos de lengua inglesa: «Amazing grace». Dice: «Y cuando allí hayamos estado diez mil años, / brillando como el sol, / el tiempo que nos queda de alabar a Dios / no será inferior que cuando todo comenzó» (*When we've been there ten thousand years, / Bright shining as the sun, / We've no less days to sing God's praise / Than when we've first begun.*)

[Traducción del original italiano por Marta Lago]



Philip asked Jesus to show them the Father.

Use this code to find Jesus' answer.

A 1 C	B 2 F	D 2 E	G 3 H	J 4 K	M 5 N
P 6 Q	R 6 R	S 7 T	U 7 U	V 8 W	X 8 X
Y 9 Z					

Jesus said,

“

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15

16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

”

What else did Jesus say?



Write the letter in the alphabet that follows each one given below.  
 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

“ h m l x e s g d q r

g n t r d q d l m x

q n n l r h l f n h m f

s g d q d s n o q d o q d

a o k b d e n q

x n t h v h k k

b n l d a b j m c

s j d x n t s n

a d v h s g l d s g s

x n t k r n l x a d

v g d q d h l ”

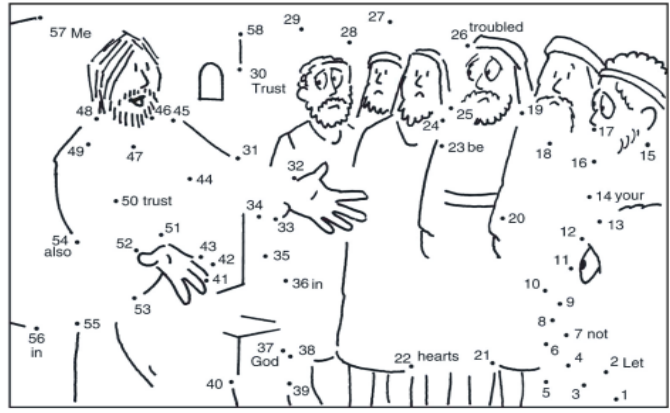
# Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+ May 3, 2026 • John 14:1-14

## Jesus, the Way to the Father

Jesus told His disciples something important.

To find what Jesus said, connect the dots. Then write the words in the order you find them on the lines below.



“ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_;  
 \_\_\_\_\_.”

Thomas asked Jesus, “Lord, we don't know where You are going, so how can we know the way?”

Read Jesus' answer. Then find the underlined words in the search below. They are → ← ↗ ↘ ↙ ↘ ↑ ↓ .

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you really knew Me, you would know My Father as well.”



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

**BURKE FAMILY ORTHODONTICS**  
**Dr. Kevin Toms**  
**Dr. Rodney Klima**  
 Braces & Invisalign  
 Children & Adults  
 703-425-5125  
 burkefamilyortho.com

**SENIOR AND MILITARY DISCOUNTS!**

**FINANCING AVAILABLE**

**ROOFING**  
 GUTTERS • SIDING  
 TREE REMOVAL • DECKS  
 Insurance Claims Specialists

FREE wind & hail Damage Inspections for Roofs

**MidAtlantic CONTRACTING INC.**  
 703-492-HOME (4661) or 571-408-4349  
 www.MAContracting.com

**AGE HAPPILY AT HOME**

NOW HIRING CAREGIVERS: We are seeking compassionate individuals to work as In-Home Caregivers, providing essential support and assistance to clients in their homes. For full job description visit [bit.ly/ExecutiveHomecare](http://bit.ly/ExecutiveHomecare) or scan the QR code.

**Executive Home Care**  
 of Manassas

Call/Text **Ryan McBroom**  
**703-936-5545**

Exercise/Walking • Companionship Medication Reminders  
 Laundry • Meal Preparation • Transportation Shopping • Housekeeping  
 Fall Prevention, Dementia Care • Health Care • And More!

[executivehomecare.com/manassas-va](http://executivehomecare.com/manassas-va)



Stop by before or after Mass.  
 Come Hungry, Leave Happy  
 We are always open!

**WE ARE HIRING!**  
 Servers - Hostess  
 any shift - full and part time

**Open 24 Hours**  
 Great taste never sleeps

Your local Burke IHOP proudly supports Nativity Church.  
 We are open 24 hours a day 7 days a week, 365 days a year.  
 Free Wi-Fi, Kids Eat free on Tuesday nights, and Wednesday is Senior Night. See what's new at IHOP.

Make it an **IHOP** day.

**Caffi SERVICES, INC**  
 PLUMBING HEATING HVAC REMODELING  
 130 POWHATAN STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22304-1042  
**(703) 836-6775**  
 www.caffiservices.com  
 service@caffiservices.com  
 Serving the D.C. Metropolitan Area since 1967

**HEATHERWOOD**  
 INDEPENDENT LIVING, ASSISTED LIVING, AND MEMORY CARE

The reviews are in!  
 1 of 8 in Virginia  
 1 of 64 in the Southeast U.S.  
 1 of 336 in the Country

www.rui.net/heatherwood

Best of Senior Living - 2015

Come make our award-winning community your new home!  
**703.425.1698**  
 9542 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA 22018

Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.

Simply go to [www.DM.CHURCH/3134](http://www.DM.CHURCH/3134) ...or scan



**Society of African Missions**

**Are You Called to be a Missionary?**

The SMA Father Society of Africa Missions are looking for young people and adults ready to embrace a life of service and purpose.

Join us as a missionary priest or lay associate and bring the light of Christ to communities in Africa, and around the world.

**Take the first step today!**

"Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15)

23 Bliss Avenue  
 Tenafly, NJ 07070  
[vocations@smafathers.org](mailto:vocations@smafathers.org)  
<http://www.smafathers.org>

**Have You Been Injured?**

Call a Personal Injury Attorney!

- Car Accidents - Slip & Falls - Dog Bites
- Cosmetic & Design Injuries
- Wrongful Death - Truck Crashes

**Tara Tighe Umbrino, Esq.**  
 Founder, Valor Injury Law

**(703) 828-0051**  
 www.valorinjury.com  
 Woodbridge, VA • 12895 Hedgewood Dr. Ste 301

**catholicmatch Virginia**

[CatholicMatch.com/goVA](http://CatholicMatch.com/goVA)

**Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will**

For further information, please call the parish office.

**JULIA BARTON**  
 ASSOCIATE BROKER | REALTOR  
 MILITARY RELLOCATION PROFESSIONAL  
 FATHOM REALTY, SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA  
 CALL/TEXT 703-835-8888  
 WWW.JULIABARTONREALESTATE.COM  
 REALTOR@JULIABARTONREALESTATE.COM

Priority serving active buyers and sellers for over 18 years.  
 Member title not to receive home staging included with your listing agreement!

**B.J. Pool & Spa**  
 A Full Service Pool and Spa Company

Parishioner  
 Robert M Seh  
 6413 Little Ox Rd.  
 Fairfax Station, VA

Please visit our showroom!  
**703.323.1333**  
[bob@bjpoolandspa.com](mailto:bob@bjpoolandspa.com)  
[www.bjpoolandspa.com](http://www.bjpoolandspa.com)

**ACCOUNTING & TAX SOLUTIONS, INC**

- Tax Preparation/Planning
- Individuals • Corporations • Partnerships • Estates • Trusts
- Accounting/Bookkeeping
- Payroll Services/Retirement Plans

**Mary Elizabeth Nutt, EA - Parishioner**  
 \*Retired as pastor at the National Revenue Service

**703-451-1040** • 9243 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke

**EWTN.COM/RADIO**

**EWTN**  
 Global Catholic Radio  
**TUNE IN**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF**  
**Reggie Denny**

**MURPHY LAW GROUP, PLLC**  
Wills, Trusts, Estates, & More  
9300-B Old Keene Mill Road, Burke, VA  
703-455-7177  
www.MurphyLawVA.com

**KELLIHER FAMILY DENTISTS**  
Jeremiah J. Kelliher, D.D.S.  
Sean P. Kelliher, D.D.S.  
Karen Kelliher Wilson, R.D.H.  
Kathleen Kelliher Ketch, R.D.H.

**Captain Pells**  
703-560-0060  
CAPTAINPELL.COM  
10195 FAIRFAX BLVD FAIRFAX, VA 22030

**Peter K. Cocolis, Jr.**  
DMD, MAGD  
**Family & Cosmetic Dentistry**  
5803 Rolling Road, #211, Springfield, VA 22152  
smiles4va.com  
**703-912-3800**  
Quality Care  
Friendly Atmosphere  
Cutting-edge Technology

**Call (703) 255-9599**  
  
**DOUGLAS ROOFING**  
Family-owned since 1985

**ADVERTISE HERE**  
Promote your Business AND support your Parish.  
Mike Jurosky - 717-648-5996 - mjurosky@diocesan.com

**Brennan's TREE SERVICE**  
703-218-8003  
www.brennansreeservice.com  
10% off any tree work for parishioners  
• Tree Removal • Spikeless Pruning • Stump Grinding  
• Free Unsplit Wood • Lot Clearing • Tree Planting • Free Chips

**Merino's Maids LLC**  
House Cleaning  
Maid service  
• Excellent References  
• 25 Continuous Years of Experience  
• Weekly, Bi Weekly, Monthly  
• Moving IN-OUT Cleaning Specialist  
Fully Licensed & Insured  
Sandramerino2145@gmail.com  
**Call for Free Estimate (703) 867-2145**

**DESIGNPRO REMODELING**  
Eric Colton Parishioner  
Call or Text 571-268-1069  
designproremodeling.com

**Virginia Eyecare Center**  
VISION SOURCE  
(703) 569-3131  
Dr. Courtney Shay  
Dr. Timothy LaFreniere  
Dr. Mallory Cranmer  
Dr. Bryan Procopio  
Dr. Alyssa Shema  
Dr. Diana Mamoud  
9314-A Old Keene Mill Rd  
www.virginiaeyecare.com

**MARY KAY**  
Joanne Fabish, Parishioner  
Independent Beauty Consultant  
703-455-8958  
www.marykay.com/jfabish

**I ♥ SPARTANS FAMILY RESTAURANT**  
9542 BURKE RD. BURKE, VA 22015  
www.ILoveSpartans.com (703) 503-5800

ONE STOP FOR YOUR LIGHT YARDWORK  
**DAVE'S YARDS AND MORE**  
Light yard work and odd jobs in Burke, VA  
CALL OR TEXT DAVE AT (703) 899-7536  
Dave has been a resident of Burke for 35 years and has a passion for yard work. Give him a call today!

**Wills, Trusts and Probate for Catholic Families**  
Complimentary Consultation  
**PJI LAW**  
www.pjilaw.com | (703) 865-6100 | welcome@pjilaw.com

**GENERAL, IMPLANT & COSMETIC DENTISTRY**  
Cristian Alcantara, DDS  
Providing Exceptional Dental Care for 40 years  
703-569-6644  
www.springfielddental.com  
6201 Old Keene Mill Court, Springfield, VA 22152

**Jefferson Funeral Chapel**  
www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com • Email: info@jeffersonfuneralchapel.com  
Family Owned  
5755 Castlewellan Drive, Alexandria, VA 22315  
Just off S. VanDorn St (Kingstowne)  
703-971-7400

I am truly blessed to have helped many of our parishioners  
**Diane A. Sundt, ABR, GRI, SRES**  
diane.sundt@LNF.com  
703-615-4626  
Over 20 Years Experience  
Parishioner  
Military Relocation Specialist  
Licensed in Virginia  
6045 Burke Centre Pkwy  
Burke, VA 22015

**pediatric dental care**  
www.mypdc dentists.com  
**Dr. John Han**  
(Parishioner)  
Fairfax Office: 703.383.3434  
9901 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax, VA 22030  
Springfield Office: 703.992.7100  
6120 Brandon Ave. Suite 114, Springfield, VA 22150

**Burke MOO THRU**  
real ice cream from real dairy farmers  
COMING SOON Owned and operated by Nativity parishioners

**FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY**  
DR. SUSANA RAYGADA, DMD, Harvard University  
DR. KATRINA HERNANDEZ-LEVERIZA, DMD, Univ. of Pennsylvania  
Rated Top Dentist by Virginia Living Mag. and Checkbook  
5211 Lyngate Ct, Burke, VA • 703-323-1400 • dentistburkeva.com

**State Farm**  
Providing Insurance and Financial Services  
Auto - Life - Home - Health - Business Insurance - Bank  
6580 Backlick Road • Suite #207 • Springfield, VA 22150  
Agent

**Certified Public Accountants**  
**BUTLER & WAGNER P.C.**  
AN AFFILIATE OF PADGETT  
Accounting Services & Business Advisory  
Income Taxes | Eldercare Bookkeeping  
www.BaW.cpa  
Burke Professional Center • 5210-B Lyngate Court  
**703-426-5560**

**Cardinal PLAZA SHELL**  
Expert Maintenance & Repairs  
703-451-6232  
www.CardinalPlazaShell.com

**Arceli Magpayo Brown**  
703-269-0673  
arcel@arcelbrown.com • www.arcelbrown.com  
Parishioner Over 10 Years & Over 30 Years Experience  
Se Habla Español  
Licensed in VA - DC - MD

