



6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, Virginia 22015 nativityburke.org

REV. MSGR. 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 Swidal, Parish Secretary Ann Benson, Business Manager Carlos Gutierrez, Facility Manager Cat Sands, Pastoral Minister Maureen Andersen, Liturgical Minister Johana Brown, Parish Receptionist Kathleen O'Leary, 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 Joyce Kelly, S.P.R.E.D. Coordinator

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454-2415 or mmturner@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 1:00 pm Mass

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

or, it necessary, by appointment

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

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

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

WEBMASTER:

Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Mary Castellano, socialmedia@nativityburke.org

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

A Message from our Pastor Msgr. Bob Cilinski



"Come have breakfast." - John 21:12

My dear parishioners,

The disciples go out in the boat all night, but they don't have a fish to show for it. This classic fish tale in the New Testament is told many times to underline the notion that the followers of Jesus can't do anything without Him. They are entirely dependent on Him, even for their daily bread..... or fish.

After their miraculous catch, Jesus had breakfast ready for them on the shore. We receive the food we need for life's journey from Jesus in the Eucharist each Sunday. He has prepared the meal by the giving of his life for us. How could we ever let anything get in the way of our sharing in this sacred meal with Jesus each Sunday?

The story reminds the church... that's us... that we are not self-sufficient and that we come to the table the Lord has prepared for us and receive the food we need for life's journey. We don't even have to ask "Who are you?" for we know "It is the Lord."

Love and Blessings, Msgr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

My dear parishioners,

Today, even amid the violence and disruption in Haiti, we see glimmers of hope as we near completion of the first ten new homes in our 14th Nativity Village project in Haiti. Nativity Village at Bois-Louroux, when completed, will bring new hope to 40 more families as they move into the new houses we have provided. At just under 1,600 homes in 14 Nativity Villages, our work in Haiti continues during this 27th year of Operation Starfish.

When Fr. Richard 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. Fr. Martin's spirit has guided this beautiful ministry for 27 years. It has been a blessing for me to have been able to travel to Haiti and see first-hand the good that our parishioners are doing. It has also been a privilege to be able to bring Operation Starfish to Jamaica and Honduras.

In July, a Nativity delegation will travel to Honduras, our second annual mission trip there, to visit the clinic we built at El Colirio in 2023, and to break ground on a new Operation Starfish project.

The Nativity spirit of hope and compassion continues to shine brightly, fed by Fr. Martin's spirit and the generous support of our parishioners. I am so very grateful to be able to witness the beautiful way that we bring the light of Christ to those in need, across the street and around the world.

On this, the 11th anniversary of Fr. Martin's return to God, let us recommit ourselves to making a difference. Let us bring our prayer, our talent and our resources to bear on the needs of the world around us. Let us be thankful for the opportunity to serve God and each other.

Msgr. Bob Cilinski





OPERATION STARFISH WEEKEND 1998 – 2025 MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR 27 YEARS "A world full of hope and kindness is a more beautiful world" - Pope Francis

This weekend, we remember Fr. Richard Martin, our former pastor, on the 11th anniversary of his return to God. We also commemorate 27 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 led us to encounter the poor and make a difference in their lives. 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 4 additional villages. We are currently developing our 14th village – Nativity Village at Bois Louroux, with the first 10 of 40 homes nearing completion. 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. We are currently installing a large generator at New Hope Hospital and transitioning to locally assembled birthing and newborn kits through our Stella Marina ministry.

In Jamaica, we have sponsored 4 medical students through an arrangement with the University of the West Indies Medical School. And in Honduras, we built a clinic at El Colirio in 2023 and sent a Nativity delegation to deliver supplies and visit patients and staff there last summer. This July, another Nativity mission trip will travel to Honduras, returning to the clinic and breaking ground on a new Operation Starfish project.

Amid violence and turmoil in Haiti, and facing uncertain times here and elsewhere, Nativity parishioners remain steadfast in following the Gospel call to serve the poor. We continue to bring Pope Francis' vision of hope and kindness to the world around us. We do so through the many ministries of compassion and mercy in the parish, and especially through Operation Starfish.

OPERATION STARFISH

Please join in supporting Operation Starfish this weekend, as we continue to follow Fr. Martin's inspiration, Msgr. Bob's leadership, and the Gospel call to service.



Saturday, May 10th, 2025, 1:00pm-4:00pm Father Martin Center & Cafeteria

TICKETS ARE \$40 PER PERSON

The High Tea will be catered by Boyd $\mathcal E$ Parker Events and will offer you an afternoon of entertainment, a Purse Auction, Photo booth, door prizes as well as, an opportunity to shop various small business vendors.

For Information about our Sisters order: The Handmaids of Reparation visit: handmaidsofreparation.org

If you are unable to make the tea and would like to donate to the sisters directly, please use the QR code: to make your donation.

Last weekends to purchase tickes: April 26-27 and May 3-4 Limited tickets are available. The Tea will be open to everyone - you do not have to be a Nativity Dame to attend (unless you want to be a Dame for a day!)



Monthly Sensory Mass | Next Sunday - May 11 At 1:00 pm - Nativity Catholic Church

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. The Mass will include softer music, dimmer lighting, pictorial resources, and self-regulation tools for those with special needs. Families are encouraged to bring any regulation tool (noise reduction items, quiet fidgets, flexible seating items, weighted objects, etc.) that can support focused attention and provide comfort to a person so they can feel safe in their environment and they can better participate in the Holy Mass.



Join us for the showing & discussion of Fr. Mike Schmitz and Jonathan Roumie's National Eucharistic Congress Speeches Saturday, May 10th from 8:00-9:00am In the Fr. Ready Room



Are you yearning to know what Jesus told the two disciples on the road to Emmaus? St. Luke gives us a hint in Lk 24:27, "Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures." We know it was totally profound, illuminating and amazing, as these dismayed, distraught and dejected disciples soon thereafter became vibrantly alive believers when they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning [within us] while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?"

In the showing of Fr. Mike's The Greatest Love Story, you will get to experience the awe and excitement of what 60,000 Catholics experienced in person at the National Eucharistic Congress as Fr. Mike unfolds in his unique and compelling style how he thought the discussion went between Jesus and the two disciples on the road to Emmaus as Jesus explained Salvation History to them!

To tee up Fr. Mike's story on the road to Emmaus, culminating with Jesus at table when in Lk 24:30 "he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them" you will likewise experience the showing of Jonathan Roumie (who plays Jesus in the wildly popular series, The Chosen) as he recites in his inimitable manner from Jn 6, The Bread of Life Discourse and The Words of Eternal Life . "I will read to you this passage unlikely to ever be filmed... This may be as close as I'll ever get to do this scene." "Amen, amen, I say to you... I am the Bread of Life ... We have come to believe that you are the Holy One of God."



ART, DRAMA, MUSICAL THEATRE CAMPS for K-12 in a Catholic setting

Since 2004, Spotlight on the Arts Summer Camps has offered Broadway Spotlight, Drama Bootcamp, Art Explorer, and Arts & Crafts Fun Camps to hundreds of Diocesan families and friends. This July 7th - 18th young people are invited to experience top level instruction as they engage in creative fun through Acting, Visual Art, Music, and more!

The camps are taught by professional Catholic educators very accomplished in their area of expertise. Each week concludes with either an Art Showcase or a Theatrical Performance by the campers. Through May 31st, all campers will receive a free t-shirt. Additionally, there are discounts for families that enroll 3 or more kids!

Learn more and register at www.SpotlightSummerCamps.com.



CALENDAR OPENING FOR

<u>July 1 thru December 31, 2025</u>

The Jul-Dec 2025 Mass Intentions
Calendar will open on
Tuesday, May 13 at 9:00 am.
We are limiting the requests to
5 intentions per family/household per
calendar year. Visit the parish office
or email akenner@nativityburke.org to
schedule intentions. Please be patient &
courteous as we try to honor all requests.

Church Of the Nativity
Parish Yard Sale for Charity
Saturday, June 28 - 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

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

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



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

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

Donation Drop-off Hours

Saturday, June 21	9:00 AM-2:00 PM
Sunday, June 22	2:00 PM-5:00 PM
Monday, June 23	10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Monday June 23-Wed. June 25	6:00 PM-9:00 PM
Thursday/Friday, June 26-27	NO DROP OFFS!

Furniture Pick-Up Requests

Call: 703-598-0698 or Email: nativityyardsale@gmail.com (First floor or walk-out level only!!)

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

Tax receipts provided

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



Knights of Columbus George Getek Memorial Pro-Life Scholarships for High School and College/Trade School Students

Eight awards will be awarded to students who best exemplify the traits of the pro-life spirit through their respective essay/ artistic responses and efforts.

- Two \$500 1st-place scholarships* and two \$150 Runner-up scholarships* to college/trade school students
- Two \$250 1st-place scholarships* and two \$100 Runner-up scholarships* to high school students will be awarded.
- *The two scholarships at each award level (e.g., two 1st-place finishers) will be given as follows:
- One to a daughter of a Nativity parishioner (or a registered parishioner herself)
- One to a son of a Nativity parishioner (or a registered parishioner himself).

More details and application forms are available on the Parish website, https://nativityburke.org/category/upcoming-events/. Application submissions are due no later than midnight, May 31st, 2025.

Awards will be announced in June. Visit: https://nativityburke.org/getek-memorial-scholarship/

The Associates of St. John Bosco (ASJB), a Catholic non-profit in the diocese founded by Fr. Christopher Vaccaro, has opened its scholarship application for all current and rising college students. This year, ASJB has more than doubled their scholarship offerings! ASJB will be awarding up to \$40,000 to up to five worthy recipients who seek to serve the Church in some way after they graduate from college. Applicants must be residents of the Diocese of Arlington. Students may apply by May 19, 2025, by visiting: www.asjb.org/scholarship-program.



THANK YOU!

What a beautiful Easter Egg Hunt to continue the Easter celebrations last Saturday!

Thank you very much to all who generously donated candy, as well as to the dedicated volunteers from the Knights of Columbus, particularly Glenn Caron and his family, along with those from the Dames Auxilliary, Marriage Enrichment Ministry, Family Ministry, and Youth Ministry. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

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 28, 2025. Collections will begin Saturday, June 21, 2025 and continue through Wednesday June 25, 2025. Your donations are tax-deductible and sincerely appreciated.



Who: Middle schoolers, grades 6-8

What: music, games, ice cream, inspirational speakers, confessions, a Vigil Mass for Sunday, and more!



Saturday, May 10 3:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.



Bishop O'Connell High School



Contact: Rebecca Judge Director of Youth Ministry cym@nativityburke.org Registration is now open on the website - space is limited.

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

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





MASS INTENTIONS & MASS SCHEDULE

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

Monday, May 5th

7:30 am † Ernesto Chandeck

Tuesday, May 6th

7:30 am † Anthony Miles Jr. 12:00 pm † Silvia Rigotti

Wednesday, May 7th

7:30 am † Basil Fernandes 3:00 pm † Jay Spade (Sunrise)

Thursday, May 8th

Friday, May 9th

7:30 am † Marilyn Lilly 9:00 am † Mariana Eddington

Saturday, May 10th

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

7:00 pm † Norma Luz Peraldo Mayari

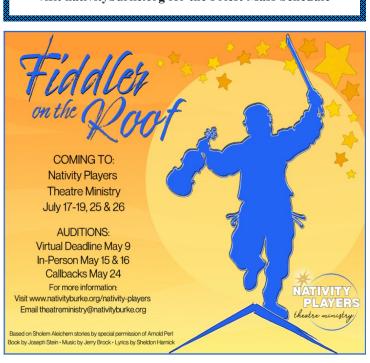
Sunday, May 11th

7:00 am Mother's Day Novena 9:00 am Parishioners 11:00 am † Wayne Gollie

1:00 pm Special Intention for Rosa Rosal (Sensory)

5:30 pm † Mary Viccica

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



Peace in the Storm Chronic Pain and Illness Support Group

Thursday, May 8, 2025 from 12:45 - 2:15 pm in the Fr. Ready Room

Where is God when good people suffer? What is God's purpose in the midst of pain? How can I find joy and peace if I am hurting? Nativity Catholic Church is aware of the many challenges that chronic pain and illness pose in the lives of our parishioners. We understand how these conditions can lead to questions of faith, too, and want you to know that you are not alone! All adult parishioners who have chronic pain or illness to participate in a parish-based, small, faith fellowship group developed by the national ministry called 'The Peace in the Storm Project'. We meet every 2nd Thursday afternoon of the month from, about 12:45 pm - 2:15 pm (after the 12:00 pm Mass and rosary/chaplet. Participants are encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch) in the Fr. Ready Conference Room, to reflect, pray, and deepen our understanding of God's love, presence, and purpose with and through health challenges within the context of our Catholic faith and parish community. Group participants will receive The Peace in the Storm Project Discussion Guide

If you are interested in joining the group, or for more information, please see the parish website or email Anna Lisa Licud at alicud@nativityburke.org.





Sponsored by Nativity School PTO/ 21+ Please



YOUTH MINISTRY SUMMER CAMPS

Tuesday, June 17 - Friday, June 20



VACATION BIBLE CAMP

Current K-4 graders 8:30am - 12:00pm | \$50 per camper

CAMP ON THE EDGE

Current 5-8 graders 1:30pm - 4:30pm | \$50 per camper At capacity for grades 5-7 - some spots left for grade 8

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

\$10 t-shirt fee for volunteers*
See website for volunteer schedule

Childcare provided for VBC volunteers!

Register on the website today! contact: vbc@nativityburke.org

YOUTH MINISTR

LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12

DINNER - FELLOWSHIP - PRAYER & FORMATION Sundays | 6:30-8:30 p.m.



EDGE: GRADES 6-8



Twice a month: Sunday 3:30-5:00 p.m. & Friday 7:00-8:30 p.m.

See website for full schedule

BASH REGISTRATION OPEN

WORKCAMP CONTRACTORS NEEDED

We are still in need of 3 adult contractors for WorkCamp this June - adults 21+ with basic home repair and maintenance skills. You do not need to be a licensed contractor in the professional sense: Contact wc@nativityburke.org for more info.

See website for full schedule

Before attending, please register for the 2024-2025 year of ministry using our free, online forms.



🔀 cym@nativityburke.org 👩 @nativitycym



2025 BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL ABOUNDING IN HOPE!

Happy Easter Season blessings and thank you for your continued support of our Bishop's Lenten Appeal! As of April 24, our pledges and one-time donations total \$738,186 with about 16% of our registered Nativity families participating. That's getting very close to our \$770,000 dollar goal, but we still need parishioners who haven't given to join in at any amount, no matter how large or small. If you haven't participated in this year's campaign and now want to, check this link arlingtondiocese.org/ BLA or scan the QR code here or just respond to Bishop's Burbidge's and Msgr. Bob's request you received in the mail. 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.

ECHO Collection this weekend Food Room Most Needed Items

ECHO's Food Room continues to break records. Last month we collected 939 lbs.

- Choose sizes appropriate for our average family size of four.
- Include an assortment of food to ensure a variety of items.
- We are short on many other items such as personal care products and the items listed below.

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

Protein Items, e.g., can chicken, Spam, chili, Tin Fish (tuna, sardines, salmon, etc.), Canned Fruit, Bagged Beans (black, red, or garbanzo preferred), Lentils, Spaghetti (pasta and sauce) Instant and Ground Coffee, Canned Tomatoes, Tomato (paste and Tomato Sauce), Baked Beans, Bagged Rice (white, jasmine or basmati), Instant (Box) Potatoes, Crackers, Ramen, Can milk, shelf stable milk, Boxed Pasta, Juice (Bottles or box), Tea (Green, Herbal or Black), Healthy Snacks, Spices (garlic, onion, cinnamon, salt, pepper), Masa (Corn) Flour, Boxed cereal, Lemon or Lime Juice, Jelly and Honey, Tortillas, Cooking Oil, Brown Paper Bags, Reusable Grocery Bags.

Children's Toothbrushes, Laundry Detergent, Toilet Paper, Deodorant, Shampoo, Facial Tissues, Dish Soap, Paper Towels Body/Hand Lotion, Band Aids, Shaving Cream/Razors, Diapers - Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Baby Wipes, Sanitary Napkins.





A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Creation Care Ministry members were honored to be interviewed by Victoria Sanchez from 7News alongside Msgr. Cilinski and Nativity teacher, Bailey Nash in honor of Earth Day. Here is the resultant article:

BURKE, Va. (7News) — As many take part in Earth Day celebrations, some at a Northern Virginia church are acknowledging Pope Francis, who died Monday at the age of 88, and his legacy of environmental stewardship. The late pontiff was a prominent advocate for environmental protection and was the first Catholic Church leader to write a Papal Encyclical to the global community, urging new dialogue when it comes to care for the planet. The 2015 letter was 180 pages long and called for the end of humanity's "irresponsible use and abuse" of the Earth's resources.

Those words planted the seeds of a grassroots movement in Burke, Virginia, that sprouted into the Creation Care Ministry. "(Pope Francis) really called the whole human family to respond. He said the Earth is crying out. We see that in intensity of storms, extreme weather, more floods, droughts, wildfires," said Monsignor Bob Cilinski, pastor of Nativity Catholic Church.

Strips of grass in the parish parking lot were turned into vegetable garden beds. "Members of the ministry in concert with the local garden club, students from the school, young adults, Eagle Scouts as well since they built the beds, all working to produce vegetables for the local food insecure," explained Kim Young with Creation Care Ministry. In between some parking spots, native plants grow to support local pollinators. "For us, it's really a bonus because they're right next to our vegetable gardens, so our pollinator services are right here beside the gardens," Young said with a smile.

The kindergarten to eighth-grade school students dig in too. "We had every grade plant six to seven dozen plants," said Bailey Nash, Nativity's Physical Education and agriculture teacher. Nash showed 7News Health and Wellness Reporter Victoria Sanchez the snap pea seedlings, zucchini plants, and newly sprouted tomatoes. The food goes to local families for free and to the school cafeteria."The plan is to ultimately feed them with what we have. So, we have a lot of lettuce growing right now," she explained. Through the simple planter boxes and small greenhouse, Pope Francis' legacy will live on with every harvest. "Earth Day is a celebration of the gift of creation and our responsibility to care for it," said Msgr. Cilinski.



Pro-Life Corner:

"Every minute a baby is killed in the womb. Take Action."

"Live Action, https://www.liveaction.org/, was started by President Lila Rose from her family's living room when she was just 15 years old. Live Action is a 501(c)3 human rights non-profit and the digital leader of the global pro-life movement; it exists today to defend the rights of the most vulnerable and make abortion unthinkable.

With over 7 million social media followers and 2.5 billion lifetime video views, Live Action reaches over 46 million people per month – saving lives and transforming hearts, with 43% of surveyed followers saying Live Action's content has changed their position on abortion. Through compelling educational media, human interest storytelling, and investigative reporting, Live Action reveals the humanity of the preborn and exposes the abortion industry exploitation of women and families for profit. Live Action is committed to equipping you with the tools to defend life boldly and effectively.

As leading pro-life Advocates, LiveAction:

EDUCATES people about the humanity of the preborn. EXPOSES the human rights abuses and corruption of the abortion industry and lobby.

INSPIRES + ACTIVATES people to be a voice for the voiceless.

Pro-Life Replies, https://prolifereplies.liveaction.org, video series is a powerful resource that breaks down more of the common pro-abortion arguments with clear, compelling truth in about four minutes. Check it out at prolifereplies.liveaction.org and share it with your family and friends. Examples include:

- · Claim: "My Body, My Choice"
- Claim: "I'm Personally Pro-Life, but..."
- Claim: "Abortion will stop overpopulation"
- Claim: "Opposing Abortion is Religious Extremism"
- Claim: "A Fetus Is Not A Person"
- Claim: "Life Only Begins After Birth; No One Knows When Life Begins"
 - Claim: "Pro-Life is Forced Life Support"
 - Claim: "Abortion Can Be Medically Necessary"
 - Claim: "Women Need Abortion to be Equal to Men"
 Claim: "Abortion in Cases of Rape"

 - Claim: Men Should Not have a Say on Abortion"
 - Claim: "Abortion for Babies with Fatal Diagnoses"
 - Claim: "Babies with Disabilities are Better off Aborted"
 - Claim: "Embryos Don't Have Equal Value"
 - Question: "Can you be Pro-Life and Support IVF?"

The more people who hear the truth, the more hearts and minds will change—and lives will be saved." [The above are excerpts from https://www.liveaction.org/]





NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nativity A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence nativityschool.org



Pure Imagination: Pure Exhilaration

Pure Imagination is a musical revue featuring songs from Broadway Junior shows like Seussical, Beauty and the Beast, and Honk! The performance included solos, small group numbers, and full ensemble pieces.



Nativity Staff Members orchestrated the musical. Delaney Fetzer directed and choreographed the show, and Michele Sidebottom served as Tech Director.

When Ms. Fetzer discovered the show, she was surprised to find that the first three songs came from the most meaningful productions she had performed in during her own elementary school days – her first, her first lead role, and her final show. "It truly felt like a full-circle moment for me," said Fetzer, "almost as if the revue were unknowingly telling my own story in theatre".







It was a remarkable performance. We sang, we danced, we laughed, we loved – we were charmed by the talents, gifts, and joyful exuberance of our young artists.

Important Upcoming Dates ~~

Monday, May 5 – Teacher Appreciation Week Begins

Monday, May 5 – Kindergarten Fellowship

Tuesday, May 6 – Spartan Restaurant Fundraiser

Wednesday, May 7 – Spartan Restaurant Fundraiser

Wednesday, May 7 – Band Concert, 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 8 – Colonial Days (4th grade)

Saturday, May 11 - First Holy Communion

Tuesday, May 13 – Spanish Exam

Tuesday, May 13 – NWEA Testing Begins

Wednesday, May 14 – Battle of the Books 'Battle' ********

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



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

Council Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. First meeting is a business meeting, the second meeting of the month is devoted to faith formation. Rosary 7:15PM; meeting at 7:30PM. 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

Food for Others: Volunteer for food distribution to the poor,

delivered on designated Thursday or Friday evenings. For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net. Fridays, contact Br. Matt

Stockburger at mstock w@yahoo.com. Deliver food from Giant to the FFO warehouse Tuesday mornings; contact Br. Bob Colella robert.colella.86@gmail.com.

Name Tags: If you have not received your name tag, email Warden Steve Resch at warden 7992@nativityburke.org. Nativity Ushers assist at collections: Volunteer for your Mass! Volunteer on Link Tree for a database of potential helpers!
Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies: We are providing coffee

and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. See Linktree.

Handy Knights Ministry: Parishioners unable to perform basic maintenance tasks or small home repairs due to health or other factors, contact the "Handy Knights."

Email handyknightsofnativity@gmail.com.

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

3rd Degree Knights: Grow with 4th Degree - participate in patriotic activities that promote Catholic citizenship. 4th Degree Assembly meets the second Tuesday of the month in the Nativity school cafeteria: 7:30 PM rosary, 7:45 pm business meeting followed by fellowship. If you are interested, please contact our Faithful Navigator Mark Corzine at fn2996@vakofc.org.

The Knights of Columbus - Dames Auxiliary: Formed to assist and support the Knights, our Church and the four virtues of Charity, Unity, Sorority and Patriotism. We are spouses, daughters, mothers, or sisters of Knights of Columbus who are in good standing or deceased. Our fellowship and informational meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Fr. Ready Room. Contact kdelatte65@gmail.com for information or to be added to our email distro.

Join the Knights! The Knights of Columbus is an international

Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend values in a busy changing world. Join today at https://www.kofc.org/joinus. Your dues will be free for one year: Be sure to enter our council #7992 and the code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY when you register.

The Local Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive will provide a major boost for **ECHO's Food Pantry**

All members of our community can help on Saturday, May 10, by leaving a bag with any amount of non-perishable food by their mailboxes before their letter carriers come to deliver mail. Mail Carriers will bring the donations to ECHO which serves local households in need of food assistance. Food received from the West Springfield, Burke, Central Springfield, and North Springfield post offices will be given to ECHO. A list of the most-needed items can be found at www.echo-inc.org, but all non-perishable foods that are not expired are welcome.

What to Know About the Annulment Process

Saturday, June 14

9am - 12pm St. John the Evangelist 271 Winchester St., Warrenton, VA

Presented by:

Rev. Thomas Ferguson, ICL

Pastor, Good Shepherd Catholic Church Judge, Tribunal of the Diocese of Arlington

The event is free, but please register at: arlingtondiocese.org/annulmenthealing



The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D., Archbishop for the Military Services, USA, cordially invites you and your guests to attend the 31st Annual Memorial Mass Sunday, the 18th of May in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and twenty-five at four-thirty in the afternoon in the Great Upper Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, 400 Michigan Ave, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017. The Memorial Mass is offered as a tribute to our deceased veterans and is widely attended by active-duty military members, veterans, and Gold star families. We are reaching out to members of Congress to join our military Catholic community in prayer for these honored dead many of whom gave the last full measure of devotion for God and country. The schedule of events will be as follows: Sacrament of Penance at 2:30-3:35 pm, Rosary at 3:35 pm, Solemn Vespers at 4:00pm, Holy Mass at 4:30 pm. Dress: Civilian - Business Attire Military. Equivalent For reserved seating at the Mass, please register by 12 May 2025: https://www.milarch.org/memorialmass/ If you have intentions to be remembered at the altar, please submit them to www.milarch.org/intentions

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.





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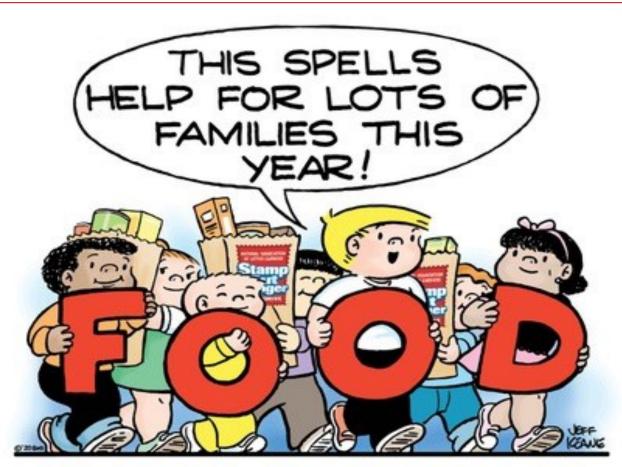
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CONTACT: Gretchen Koch • gretchen.koch@arlingtondiocese.org
To make a gift online: arlingtondiocese.org/Donate SEEF





The St. Andrew the Apostle Concert Series presents men's a-cappella ensemble Brethren in a free concert on Sunday, May 4, at 4:00pm in Clifton, VA. Founded in 2006, Brethren is a premier men's a-cappella ensemble made up of professional, military, and church musicians from the DC metro area and beyond. From Renaissance polyphony to traditional hymnody to spirituals to patriotic standards to southern gospel - Brethren delivers a choral program that is sure to please all audiences and one that will not soon be forgotten. Stay after the concert and meet the artists during a complimentary reception with light refreshments. For more information, call 703-817-1770 or visit www.st-andrew.org/



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Roundtrip airfare and beautiful, centrally-located four-star hotels have been arranged. A ProRome tour manager will accompany the group throughout the course of the pilgrimage, with private bus transportation, Catholic tour guides, all tours and tickets, daily breakfast, and daily dinner are included in the price (except once when lunch is provided).

September 21 - 30, 2025

\$3630 per person, Land Only \$5145 per person (includes airfare from Washington Dulles Airport)

For more information or to register, please visit www.prorometours.com/arlingtoncatechists or contact ProRome Tours directly at [434] 953 1112 or by email at office@prorome.com.

SIN TEMOR EN LA RUTA

3º Pascua

Javier Leoz (sacerdote)

"No tengamos miedo de ser cristianos y de vivir como tales". Este, entre otros, fue el mensaje que el Papa Francisco derramaba sobre todos los fieles presentes en el Regina Coeli del día 7 de abril. Y es que, para anunciar y tener el coraje de lleva a Cristo a este mundo nuestro, primero tenemos que ser y vivir como cristianos. ¿Cómo anunciar lo que desconocemos?

1.; Feliz Pascua con el Resucitado, hermanos!

Que no nos quedemos atrás a la hora de proponer (no imponer) aquello que desde el Evangelio sabemos que sería la gran alegría del mundo y el gran secreto para que todo lo que nos rodea tuviera un horizonte lleno de luz. Como cristianos no podemos perder la esperanza. En algunos momentos, y por diversos cauces, escuchamos que el mundo está perdido. Que no hay solución. ¡Mentira! La Pascua, el paso del Señor Resucitado, nos ha dejado la fuerza y el tesón de los que creen en El. ¿Podemos decepcionar al Señor con nuestro absentismo? ¿Por qué no echar, una y otra vez, las redes de nuestras buenas voluntades allá donde pensamos que todo está acabado? ¿Qué es difícil? ¿Que el cansancio hace mella en nuestro seguimiento a Jesús?

¡Es el Señor! Y, por el Señor, antes y después, ahora, mañana y siempre nos hemos de emplear a fondo para sembrar en su nombre, para remar con El y para intentar que el mundo, los hombres y mujeres de nuestro tiempo, conozcan (los que todavía no lo han escuehado), reconozcan (los que lo han olvidado) a un Cristo que trae vida, ilusión y coraje para todos.

2, ¡Feliz Pascua con el Resucitado, amigos!

No nos puede agobiar la ausencia de frutos. Aunque existan razones para el pesimismo, para mil y una preocupaciones, el Señor nos invita, nos sugiere que hay que seguir adelante. Que la barca, aunque aparentemente esté vacía, se sostiene porque Él va al timón. ¿Le queremos? ¡Que se note en nuestro combate del día a día!

Eso nos falta: confianza absoluta en El No nodemos castigarnos tanto. No nodemos castigarnos tanto.

Eso nos falta: confianza absoluta en El. No podemos castigarnos tanto. No podemos centrar toda la labor pastoral, catequética, caritativa, asistencial o lúdica exclusivamente en nuestras fuerzas. El Señor, al fin y al cabo, es quien nos otorga la capacidad para hacer frente a las contrariedades. Qué bien lo expresaba el Papa Francisco en el inicio de su pontificado al recordarnos que no hemos de abandonar la cruz. Que, la cruz, ha de ir siempre con nosotros.

Los apóstoles, como nosotros en algunos momentos, estaban a punto de renunciar a todo. La pesca había sido infruetuosa, decepcionante. Se sentían abandonados y desconcertados. Sólo, cuando apareció el Señor, el panorama cambió de color.

Que también nosotros, lejos de abandonar cuando el horizonte es oscuro, imploremos, recemos y miremos al cielo buscando la mano siempre tendida de Jesús que sale en los momentos más amargos de tristeza y de dolor. ¡FELIZ PASCUA DE RESURRECCION! ¡MERECE LA PENA OBEDECER AL SEÑOR!

¡POR TU NOMBRE, SEÑOR!

Javier Leoz (sacerdote)

Echaré las redes de mi vida, para que otros tengan savia y en abundancia Esperaré a que el sol se imponga sobre las tinieblas y comprender que, no hay noche que dure una eternidad Miraré al fondo de los acontecimientos y confiare en que, Tú y sólo Tú, eres quien iluminas las sombras de la existencia humana ¡POR TU NOMBRE, SEÑOR! Me desgastaré, en cuerpo y alma, para llevar almas y corazones a tu encuentro para que, el mundo, tan colapsado de cosas como vacío de sentido recupere la alegría que nos ofrece tu ser resucitado POR TU NOMBRE, SEÑOR! Mantendré firme mi amor y fe en Ti para, luego, ser ardiente antorcha que irradie luz y paz allá donde me encuentre Mantendré firme mi esperanza en Ti para que, el hombre que busca y no encuentra. sepa que en Ti encontrará siempre una respuesta POR TU NOMBRE, SEÑOR! Te amaré hasta el final y, amándote como Tú mereces. sembraré de fraternidad y de perdón mis caminos de alegría y de belleza los corazones de los que te anhelan de regocijo y de seguridad

los rostros cansados de tantos caminos retorcidos. Amén.



The disciples dragged the net ashore. Even though it was full, it did not tear! What did Jesus say to them?

Add and subtract words and letters.









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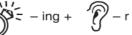




- enlope =







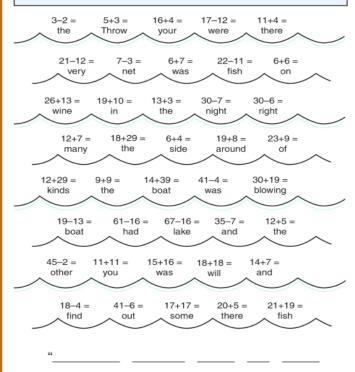






Early the next morning, Jesus stood on the shore and called out to the disciples.

Do the math problems in the waves. If the answer is an odd number, cross that wave out. For the even-numbered answers, write the words from those waves in order on the lines below.



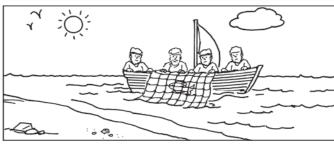


May 4, 2025 • John 21:1-19

Jesus and the Big Catch of Fish

The disciples went out to fish, but they did not catch anything!

Find 15 differences in the second picture.







What happened next?



Use the code to find out.

Q H S Н X L D V S ____ S R M W G S V N

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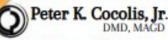
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