

I am in my Father and
YOU ARE IN ME
and I am in you

JOHN 14:20



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

REV. MSGR. ROBERT C. CILINSKI, PASTOR
REV. JONATHAN BENNETT, PAROCHIAL VICAR
REV. JORDAN EVANS, PAROCHIAL VICAR
**REV. CEDRIC P. WILSON, ASSISTING PRIEST/
SPANISH MINISTRY**
DEC. RICHARD F. KELLY
DEC. SEAN MAZARY

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

Adrienne Swidal, Parish Secretary
Ann Benson, Business Manager
Carlos Gutierrez, Facility Manager
Cat Sands, Pastoral Minister
Karla Camino, Sacristan
Johana Brown, Parish Receptionist
Diane Dellen, Receptionist/Baptism Coordinator
Caroline Chase, Receptionist/Bulletin Editor
Ana Gonzalez, Offertory/Mass Intentions
Charlie Gutierrez, Evening Receptionist
Patricia Pagoada, Director Family Ministry/Social Action
Tracey Hulen, Disability Inclusion Coordinator
Mary Castellano, Director of Social Media
Anna Lisa Licud, Coordinator Marriage Enrichment
Carole Fischl, Co-director of Music
Debbie Doyle, Co-director of Music
Mai Tran, Traditional Choir Director
Sara Prince, Youth Choir Director
Mina Lee, Cornerstone Contemporary Choir Director
Natacha Hines, Gift Shop

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

**MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
PROGRAM:**

Sister Donatella Merulla, A.R., M.R.E.
Sister Mary Attilia Todaro, A.R., M.R.E.
Fania Jimenez, Administrative Assistant
Joyce Kelly, SPRED Coordinator

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454-2415 or
mmturner@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

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**



*“If you love me you will keep my commandments.”
- John 14:15*

My dear friends,

Some people go to Mass on Sundays because of obligation. The most genuine reason to go to Mass on Sunday is out of romance - yes, out of love for God and the people of God who gather for the Eucharist. Jesus gives us the central motivation for our decisions, actions and words when He states in today's Gospel, *“If you love me you will keep my commandments.”*

Loving Jesus is not some emotional line that we would find on a Hallmark card. Loving Jesus means changing our lives, reforming our lives, working on our personalities and characters, working to overcome sinful habits, and stretching ourselves to be merciful, compassionate and generous. Jesus said *“You can't serve two masters. You will either love one and hate the other.”*

Jesus also speaks about His love for us. *“There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends.”* Jesus' love for you is without end. Jesus' love for us is never changing, always forgiving, always our friend. If we love Jesus in return then we will put Jesus in the first place in our lives and so we will keep His commandments. Put Jesus' friendship first this week and your joy will increase.

Congratulations to our children who received their First Communion during the month of May... Over 165 First Communicants at Nativity.

Let us rejoice and be glad in the gift of Jesus' love and friendship celebrated at every Mass... and in the gift of our children.

Today we honor our mothers who gave us life and have offered sacrificial love and devotion to their children. We thank you and ask God to bless you abundantly.

Love and Blessings,

Bob Cilinski
Msgr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

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

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

SECURITY MINISTRY

This month 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.

Happy Mother's Day



**Congratulations to
Msgr. Bob Cilinski on the
47th Anniversary of his Ordination
being celebrated on May 12th**



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



NATIVITY STARS GALA & AUCTION


A night at the races!

Grab your hats and bowties and join us for:
Cocktails • Heavy Appetizers • Auctions • "Horse Race"

Get Your Tickets!
Tickets: \$60
nativityschool.org/gala

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

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:



The next Prayer Shawl meeting will be held on Monday morning, May 18th at 9:30 am in the Fr. Ready room. This ministry is open to all members of our community!



SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS
~ SUMMER CAMPS ~
SpotlightSummerCamps.com
Manassas, VA | Burke, VA

BROADWAY SPOTLIGHT
DRAMA BOOTCAMP
ARTS & CRAFTS FUN
ART EXPLORER

JULY 13-24, 2026




Religious Education Class Registration

Will open on May 11

Session Schedule			
Session	Day	Time	Grades
1	Sunday	3:45pm-5:00pm	K-8
2	Sunday	7:00pm-8:15pm	K-8
3	Monday	4:45pm-6:00pm	K-8
4	Monday	7:00pm-8:15pm	K-8, OCIC, OCIC HS
5	Tuesday	4:45pm-6:00pm	K-8
6	Tuesday	7:00pm-8:15pm	K-8, HS Confirmation

Scan QR-Code to register



Classes start September 20th

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 CCD, with "St. Lucy Project" in the memo line. If you have questions, please email the St. Lucy Team at nativity.stlucyteam@gmail.com. Thank you and God bless you!

Available Opportunities:

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

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

We Need Volunteers!

It is a Diocesan and Parish requirement that we perform background checks on all our volunteers working with children. We also ensure compliance with USSCB child protection guidelines under the Charter of the Protection of Children through an annual audit.

To register to volunteer, please visit our page or scan QR-Code



SCAN ME

Get in Touch
 703-455-0372 | nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org | nativityburke.org/re/



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.



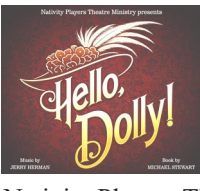
ASSOCIATES OF
SAINT JOHN
— BOSCO —

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 to find the application and to learn more. Deadline is May 18, 2026.

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.



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



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

Monday, May 11

7:30 am Mother's Day Novena
12:00 pm † John Frazee

Tuesday, May 12

7:30 am † Eugene J. Rose
12:00 pm Mother's Day Novena

Wednesday, May 13

7:30 am Mother's Day Novena

Thursday, May 14

7:30 am Mother's Day Novena
12:00 pm † K. K. Yung

Friday, May 15

7:30 am † Agnes M. Lynch

Saturday, May 16

9:00 am † Nicolas & Angela De Pando Molina
5:00 pm † Hoa Ngo
7:00 pm Mother's Day Novena

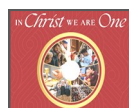
Sunday, May 17

7:00 am Nativity Parishioners
9:00 am † Robert Hansen
11:00 am † John Frazee
1:00 pm † Marshall A. Levitan
5:30 pm Mother's Day Novena

In prayer, let us remember the sick and deceased of the parish visit 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.



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



With your participation, we can make it! We are so close to reaching our BLA goal of \$840,000. As of April 28, our pledges and donations amount to \$794,634. That's \$45,366 away from our dollar goal. But with only about 15 percent of registered families donating, we need more households to join in. If you have not yet donated, our Easter season is still time to make a sacrificial offering at any amount that works for you and your family. It's so easy to do online at www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or just scan the QR code for quick access or use one of the BLA envelopes at church. Your support helps so many charities, ministries, and programs throughout the Diocese and right here at Nativity. May God bless you for your sacrificial generosity.

Peace in the Storm



Chronic Pain and Illness Support Group

Tuesday, May 12 | 7:00 - 8:30 pm | Church Conference Room
 Thursday, May 14 | 12:45 - 2:15 pm | Fr. Ready Room

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 are invited to participate in a parish-based, small, faith fellowship group developed by the national ministry called The Peace in the Storm Project. We meet 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** at no cost.



If you are interested in joining the group or for more information, please email Anna Lisa Licud at alitud@nativityburke.org or visit our parish website www.nativityburke.org/peace-in-the-storm/

Church Of the Nativity Parish Yard Sale for Charity Saturday, June 27 - 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

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



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

Donation Drop-off Hours

Thursday, June 18-Friday June 19	6:00 PM-9:00 PM
Saturday, June 20	9:00 AM-2:00 PM
Sunday, June 21	2:00 PM-5:00 PM
Monday, June 22	10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Monday June 22-Wed. June 24	6:00 PM-9:00 PM
Thursday/Friday, June 25-26	NO DROP OFFS!



A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Happy Mother's Day! How can we celebrate our Moms and Mother Earth this month? Spend time in nature, taking a walk or hike, or visiting a park or botanical garden. Plant a native flower bed, vegetable garden, or native tree or shrub. Host a meal using organic ingredients from a local farmer's market, reducing your carbon footprint. Pledge to increase your choices of sustainable gifts such as potted plants instead of cut flowers, and prioritize experiences over consumer goods. The moms in your life AND Mother Earth will thank you for Caring for Creation in these ways. nativitycreationcare@gmail.com.

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 to learn more about what JP is offering!



Opening Fall 2026
 Alexandria, Virginia

Chesterton Academy of Christ the King will be opening at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Alexandria this fall. Chesterton high schools have a strong Catholic identity anchored in daily school Mass, a rigorous classical curriculum, screen-free discussion-based learning, and affordable tuition. Our 2026-2027 tuition rate of \$13,900 will be locked in for our founding families, and need-based financial aid is available. Interested students and their families are invited to learn more about the school while enjoying afternoons of ice cream and fellowship on our campus at monthly "Sundaes on Sundays" events throughout the spring and summer. Visit Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org to learn more, RSVP for our next event, and to apply.

IN MARY'S FOOTSTEPS A Group for Widows

We are a group of women who share the experience of the loss of our beloved husbands and join together in faith and fellowship. We have gathered for lunches or dinners out, retreats at the Benedictine Monastery, museum tours, etc. **Our next meeting will take place on Monday, May 11th at 11:00 am in the Father Ready room.** For further information, please contact Cat Sands at csands@nativityburke.org.
 May God bless you!

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, 571-239-4418. <https://nativityburke.org/cursillo/>, <https://www.arlingtoncursillo.org>. Bring a lawn chair!





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



PLEASE
DONATE

--- SATURDAY, JUNE 6th | 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

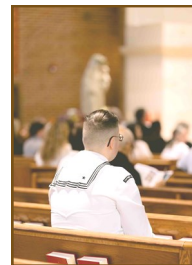
DRIVE UP AND DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS! THE ST. LUCY TEAM WILL ASSIST YOU!

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

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN
Second Collection THIS 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. 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.



© USCCB Staff



Chaplain:
Fr. Jonathan Bennett

Contact: 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/

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"

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



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 📷 [@nativitycym](https://www.instagram.com/nativitycym)

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Catholic Charities - Pregnancy and Adoption Services

Catholic Charities is "Licensed. Ethical. Reputable. Since 1947, Pregnancy and Adoption support has served communities in Northern Virginia and surrounding areas. We are committed to providing transformative services to individuals, couples and families whose lives are impacted by unplanned pregnancy, parenting in a crisis situation and/or whose lives have been touched by adoption.

Unplanned Pregnancy Options

"Learning about the options and resources available to you before you decide is critical because whatever choice you make will impact you for the rest of your life!

The good news is you don't have to figure this out alone – You can call or text one of our friendly, certified pregnancy counselors anytime at 703-973-0129 and visit our page to learn more about the options and resources in Northern Virginia that are available to help you before you decide. Since 1947 we have been providing pregnancy and adoption services in Northern Virginia. We are available 24/7 to assist you as you consider your options, obtain support and make a plan. We will meet you at times and locations that are easiest for you.

Adopt a Child

"Making the decision to grow your family through adoption is a big step! Take some time to learn more about the options available to you and the pros and cons of each option. We can help you explore your options so that you can make an informed decision about which path is best for your family.

Adoption is a lifelong journey and likely one you are deciding if you will take. Our adoption program has been licensed by the state of Virginia since 1947. We serve all members of the adoption triad- birth family, adoptive family and adoptee. When you decide to adopt a child, adoption is interwoven into your identity and into your child's identity. We seek to equip and empower adoptive families with all of the support and information they need to give them a solid foundation in all of our adoption programs."

If interested in adoption, complete the information in the link below and a professional will respond. https://ccda.mysamdb.com/SAM/Fm/SimpleInquiryForm_Edt.aspx
For more details, go to <https://ccda.net/find-help/pregnancy-adoption/>, 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>

Project Rachel: Help after Abortion. A safe place to share your emotions and work toward healing. 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, 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. 866.444.3553.

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

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 or by phone at 703-445-0246 with any questions!



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That's Some Performance!

Our third graders recently brought one of our favorite novels to life: Charlotte's Web! From Wilbur's birth to Charlotte's death, our third graders brilliantly retold the story of how Wilbur is saved by the love, kindness, and wisdom of his dear friend, Charlotte. Every third grader played a part, whether in-character, or, as part of the crew. A GREAT BIG thank you to Mrs. Klaric and Ms. Fetzer, who cast and directed the play, to Mrs. Sidebottom, our sound engineer, and to Mrs. Alves de Freitas, who managed the backstage crew.



Important Upcoming Dates ~ May 25 - No School/Memorial Day

At Nativity, faith fills us. Love lives here. Nativity Stars are filled with the Holy Spirit! Join us to see how your child would spend his or her days here - learning, praying, sharing, and laughing. We may be just the school for which you've been searching! Contact us at www.nativityschool.org, (703) 455-2300, smurph@nativityschool.org.



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 or the Grand Knight, Michael Bender at gk7992@nativityburke.org with any questions.

- Volunteer for an event!** Scroll down to view all events, 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!
- Cathedral of Saint Thomas More Pilgrimage:** On 30 May, we will take a tour of the Cathedral of Saint Thomas More. We will meet, form carpools and depart Nativity at 8:15 AM. We'll attend the morning Mass and Rosary at 9:00 AM. We'll take a guided tour of the Cathedral at 9:50-10:45 AM and return to Nativity shortly thereafter.
- 18-27 June: YARD SALE** All Knights on Deck! SUGs live for area leads and volunteers. Collections begin 18-26 JUN; final setup 25-25 JUN. Area leads and asst. leads are needed to guide teams in the sorting, and pricing of donated "treasures" during this period in preparation for our June 27th day of sale. 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.
- 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.
- 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 Murray Rupert at fn2996@vakofc.org.



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.

GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ARE INVITED TO...

COLLEGE NIGHTS

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

- JUNE 30** Holy Spirit, Annandale
- JULY 9** St. Theresa, Ashburn
- JULY 14** Holy Trinity, Gainesville
- JULY 21** Basilica of St. Mary, Alexandria
- JULY 28** St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Fredericksburg



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BIBLE STUDIES AT NATIVITY PARISH

Wednesday morning and evening. Walking With Purpose:

Meeting in person. Walking with Purpose is a study program that aims to help bring women closer to Christ through Scripture. Meets weekly in person on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Registration for Fall 2026 will be available in July 2026.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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¡Señor, creo!

Todo es obra de la gracia de Dios, que exige respuesta nuestra, que exige fe.

Por: Pedro García, Misionero Claretiano | Fuente: Catholic.net



La Iglesia nos presenta varios Evangelios donde se nos habla de la Eucaristía, preanunciada en la multiplicación de los panes y prometida en la sinagoga de Cafarnaúm. La Liturgia de la Iglesia no hace nada semejante con ninguna otra página del Evangelio. ¿Por qué esta insistencia?...

Pues, sencillamente: porque la Iglesia sabe que en la Eucaristía tiene la fuente de donde emana toda su vida, y sabe también que toda la vida de sus hijos --la de todos nosotros-- debe desembocar siempre en la Eucaristía. O comulgamos y tenemos la vida de Dios, o no comulgamos y la vida de Dios está en nosotros casi agónica, si no muerta del todo...

El Evangelio de la promesa de Cafarnaúm nos hace ver el desenlace de aquella dramática discusión de Jesús con sus rivales en la sinagoga, cuando les aseguró: -Yo soy el pan bajado del cielo. Y si no coméis mi carne y no bebéis mi sangre no tendréis vida en vosotros. Esta página nos declara la actitud de todos ante la Eucaristía, hoy como entonces.

A los escribas y fariseos, que llevaban la voz cantante en la sinagoga, les oímos decir:

- Pero, ¿cómo puede éste darnos a comer su carne y a beber su sangre? ¡Imposible!...

Otros --y esto es lo peor, porque éstos son discípulos--, que dicen lo que leemos:

- ¿Qué duro y repugnante es este lenguaje! ¿Quién lo va a entender y aceptar?...

Finalmente, a los incondicionales que no dudan, como Pedro, el cual nos pondrá en los labios la última palabra de este drama.

Jesús está triste, vamos a hablar así. Se esperaba la reacción negativa de los jefes judíos. Pero no podía pensar que los suyos le iban a negar su adhesión y la fe. Por eso se queja ahora:

- ¿Esto que os he dicho os escandaliza? Pues, ¿qué diríais si me vieséis subir al cielo, donde estaba antes?

Jesús les tiende una mano, para que no les falle la fe y no se consuma la ruptura, porque entonces están perdidos, y les dice y aconseja:
- No hagáis caso de las apariencias. El Espíritu es quien da la vida, y os pido que juzguéis no según la carne, sino según el Espíritu. Mis palabras son espíritu y vida.

Judas, el que dentro de un año lo va a traicionar y entregar, es el primero en meter cizaña entre el grupo. Jesús se da cuenta, lo mira escrutador, y dice a todos disimulando con delicadeza:

- ¿Cómo es que hay algunos entre vosotros que no creen?...

¡A ver si Judas y otros se dan por aludidos!... Jesús pasea entre ellos su mirada adolorida, y continúa:

- Por eso os he dicho que nadie puede venir a mí y creer en mí, si mi Padre no lo atrae.

Todo es obra de la gracia de Dios, que exige respuesta nuestra, que exige fe.

Aquellos discípulos disidentes no quieren dar esta respuesta a la palabra de Jesús, y se marchan despectivos, aunque Judas se queda en el grupo, pero cada vez más receloso y alejado espiritualmente.

Al ver Jesús cómo se le marchan, se dirige a los Doce, que están pensativos:

- ¿También vosotros os queréis ir y dejarme solo?

Menos mal que Pedro toma la palabra decidido, y responde en nombre de los compañeros fieles con unas palabras que expresarán la fe de la Iglesia en todos los siglos por venir:

- ¡Señor! ¿Y a quién vamos a ir? A nadie fuera de ti. Pues solo Tú tienes palabras de vida eterna, y nosotros hemos creído que Tú eres el santo y el enviado de Dios.

Cualquiera que sabe leer el Evangelio se da cuenta de que la popularidad de Jesús cae vertiginosamente en Galilea. Si le llegan hasta tomar por un alucinado y un loco.

¡Mira que ya es algo demasiado eso de decir que va a dar de comer su carne y beber su sangre!...

Éste es un Evangelio doloroso. Y somos nosotros los que podemos decir a Jesús como Pedro y con la primera Iglesia: -¡Señor, creo!..., igual que podemos decirle con mucho retintín, como los incrédulos de la sinagoga: -¡Eso, eso...!

Ante el misterio de la Eucaristía no hay más razones que valgan sino la fe ciega en la palabra de Jesús:

¡Creo, y basta!... ¡Lo dice Él, y tengo bastante!... No veo nada, ¡pues, mucho mejor! Mayor gloria le doy a Él y mayor mérito tengo yo...

Si los otros dicen que esto no es más que un recuerdo de Jesús, yo me atengo a su Palabra, que me dice categóricamente y sin más explicaciones : -Esto es mi Cuerpo, ésta es mi Sangre...

Sin embargo, el mejor acto fe será siempre la asiduidad en participar del sacrificio del Altar, en recibir la Comunión, y en adorar al Señor en el Sacramento, donde permanece por nosotros con presencia continua.

La Santa Misa, la Sagrada Comunión, la Visita y la Hora Santa son el apogeo de la fe.

No hay miedo de que falle nunca el que hace de la Eucaristía el centro de toda vida espiritual...

¡Señor Jesucristo! ¡Gracias porque te nos diste de modo tan admirable, y porque te quedaste entre nosotros de manera tan amorosa! Darnos a todos una fe viva en el Sacramento del amor. Que la Misa dominical sea el centro de nuestra semana cristiana, la Comunión nos sacie el hambre que tenemos de ti, y el Sagrario se convierta en el remanso tranquilo donde nuestras almas encuentren la paz....



Jesus shared a message about love.



Jesus said, "They who have My commandments and keep them are those who love Me; and those who love Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love them and reveal Myself to them."

Find the underlined words in the puzzle below.

They may be found: → ← ↓ ↑ ↖ ↗ ↘ ↙

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

Who is the Counselor?

Add and subtract words and letters to find the answer. Write the answer on the lines below.

- KIE + - AT + - KY = _____

- FIS + - BW + - BO = _____

- UN + - G + - NG

+ - SAR = _____



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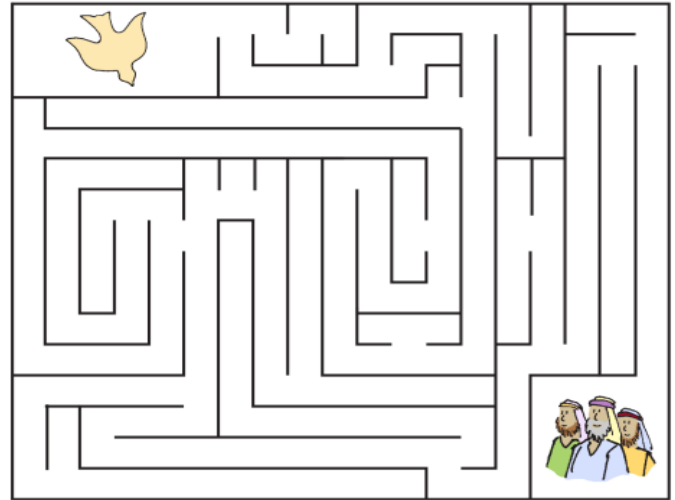
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May 10, 2026 • John 14:15-21

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

Jesus said God would send a Helper to be with us all the time.

Find a path through the maze for the dove, which symbolizes this special Helper sent by God.



Jesus added something else that was important.



Find more of Jesus' words in this circle code.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14												

" 13 8 11 1 9,10 3

5 7,8 7 3 1 7,8 2,3

5 1 7 5 7,8

13 8 11

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