



MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE



**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

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

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

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. Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 a.m. on Saturday

HOLY DAY MASSES: As Announced

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

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

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

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

WEBMASTER:
Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

SOCIAL MEDIA:
Mary Castellano, socialmedia@nativityburke.org

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

MIS OVEJAS
ESCUCHAN MI VOZ

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



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

My dear parishioners,

Alleluia! Our celebration of Easter continues. Easter is a season that lasts fifty days and we should take advantage of every day to celebrate.

During the Easter season our scripture readings draw our attention to appearances of Jesus after His resurrection, the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd, and His promise to send the Holy Spirit as His enduring presence and source of animation in the Church.

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

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

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

Happy Mothers Day! Happy Fourth Week of Easter!

Love and Blessings,

Msgr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor



**Congratulations to Msgr. Bob Cilinski
on his 46th Ordination Anniversary!
May 12th, 2025**



**Monthly Sensory Mass | 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.

K of C Annual Car Raffle - Cash Winners

Nativity parishioners continued their winning streak! We had two lucky winners: one \$5,000 cash prize and one \$100 cash prize! Congratulations to our winners!

The complete winner's list can be found at <https://allsaintsvachurch.org/giving/car-raffle/>.

Thank you again for your generous support of this year's raffle which will benefit the youth ministry and Knights of Columbus charities.

The Gift Shop urgently needs new volunteers!

We need two volunteers for the Sunday 11:00 am Mass and two volunteers for the Sunday 5:30 pm Mass. Must be registered Nativity parishioners who usually attend those Masses. Willing to learn how to use the cash register and stay for half an hour after the Masses. If you are interested, please leave your name and telephone number at the gift shop or parish office.

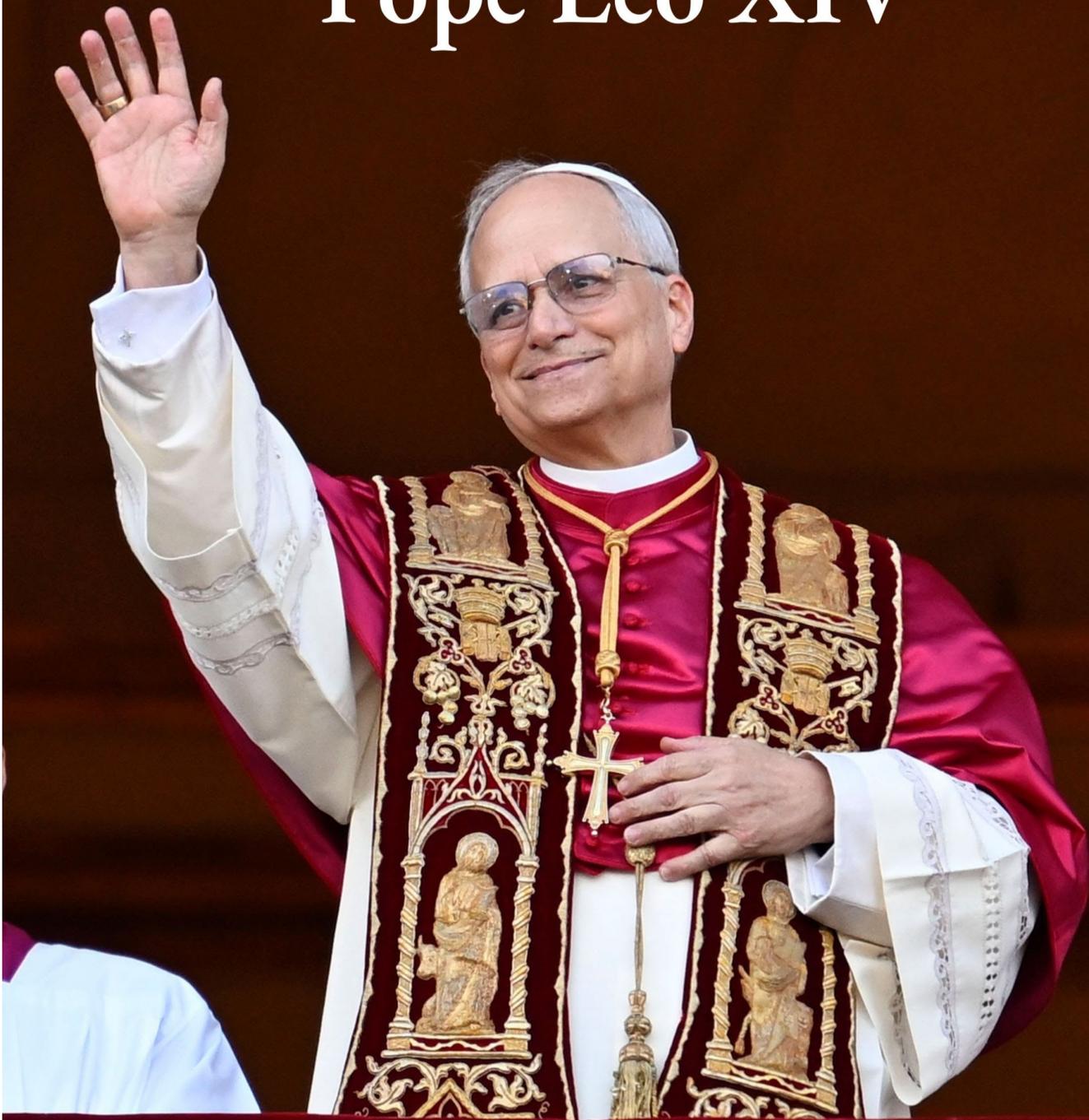
**OPENING OF THE MASS INTENTIONS BOOK
FOR THE SECOND HALF OF 2025 SCHEDULED
FOR TUESDAY, MAY 13th AT 9:00AM**

Please note that we can only honor 5 Mass Intention requests per year, per family/household. We are currently opening the calendar for Mass Intentions from July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 only.

We try our best to accommodate your requested dates. Please be aware that some dates might be unavailable (i.e. Novena Masses etc.). In case of unavailability, we will try our best to schedule on the closest date possible. We greatly appreciate your patience and understanding as we try to accommodate all requests.

Please stop by the parish office or you can visit: <https://nativityburke.org/mass-intentions/> to request an intention online and we will let you know if the requested date(s) is/are available. **We are not able to honor phone requests.**

Pope Leo XIV



HABEMUS PAPAM!

CNS Photo/Vatican Media

Calling all bakers and prayer warriors!!

IT'S KAIROS COOKIE TIME AGAIN

We need cookies filled with prayer for the men making the next Kairos Prison Ministry Weekend at Greenville Correctional Center in Jarrett, VA. Several members of Nativity are on the Kairos team, and each is asked to bring 100 dozen cookies.

Kairos (Cursillo FOR the inmates) offers the opportunity to act on Jesus' words, 'When I was ill you cared for me, and in prison you visited me' (Matthew 25:36). These homemade cookies shine the light of God's love into the darkest corners of prison life. Each cookie is a prayer that can bring an inmate or warden closer to God.

The cookies can be baked ahead and frozen. They will need to be dropped off at the Nativity Office (or the Narthex) by Monday, May 12 at the latest so they can be packed to travel to Greenville on the 14th.

If you cannot bake, please pray for the inmates and team making the weekend from Thursday, May 15 - Sunday, May 18. There are specific guidelines for cookies and recipes, these can be found at: <https://www.mykairos.org/docs/kpmi/cookies.pdf>
 Questions: please contact Dave Druitt at Dcdave0@gmail.com.

CELEBRATING THE MOTHERHOOD WITHIN:

THE WOMEN WHO BIRTHED US

THE WOMEN WHO RAISED US

EXPECTING AND NEW MAMAS

BEREAVED MOTHERS

THOSE WHO LONG TO BE MOTHERS

OUR SPIRITUAL MOTHERS

THE MOMS ALONGSIDE US

OUR OWN SELVES

THOSE WHO NURTURE US

Image credit: beaheart.com

The Importance of Sunday Mass

As the body will die without food, the soul will expire without nourishment. As Catholics, that spiritual nourishment comes at the Sunday Eucharist. The Lord's Day is essential for our faith. Make Sunday Mass the heart of your week.

Please join us for our May Meeting on May 20th from 1:00-3:00pm in the Father Ready Room at Nativity

Need something to do with your children over the summer? Can they count to 10 and string beads? Then you should join the Rosary Ministry and learn how to make Rosaries. This is a great family activity and you will be helping to get Rosaries into praying hands all over the world! All supplies are provided! You may know Pope Francis instituted the Season of Creation (*September-October*) to encourage good stewardship of resources and kindness to one another in doing so.

In his memory — and because every day is really a celebration of God's creation — plenty of green/white rosary kits are available, both with and without cut twine.

Please help us make as many green rosaries in all different shades of Green in memory of the Pope. If you have any questions you can contact us at rosaryministry@nativityburke.org

Pray the Pro-Life Rosary with Us!

When: Usually Fridays after Nativity's 7:30am Mass.
 Where: 900 S. Washington Street, Falls Church. Join Nativity in peacefully praying the Pro-Life Rosary on the sidewalk in front of the Falls Church abortion facility for mothers in need and for the protection of human life. Contact rickloffredo@outlook.com to join us!

BROADWAY SPOTLIGHT

DRAMA BOOTCAMP

ARTS & CRAFTS FUN

ART EXPLORER

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS

~ SUMMER CAMPS ~

SpotlightSummerCamps.com

Manassas, VA | Burke, VA

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.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 FIRST COMMUNICANTS

Nicholas Adams
Camila Alvarado
Eliana Anderson
Andre Apaestegui
Jesus Araoz Chavez
Theodore Argyros
Anna Atwell
Noah Balangue
Kaylan Barker
Mason Barrett
Grayson Beck
Charlotte Beegle
Isaac Bergeron
Leo Bishop
Alexander Bishop
James Boese
Henry Boyle
Niall Brideau
Matthias Brown
Caroline Browne
Maxwell Brust
Greyson Burrow
Jeshua Cardenas Reyes
Ames Carlson
Colton Cascadden
Lucy Castillo-Manzano
Henry Chan
Logan Clancy
Barrett Clarke
Madison Cordova
Alexa Cruz Larios
Ana Cuca
Elise Dailey
Douglas Danosos
Juliene Kylene David
Jayden Diaz
Nelly ElSeheami
Ella Engdahl
Noah Escamilla
Bella Estrada
Kennedy Evans
Ella Eways
Avery Fairgrieve
Margaret Fernandez
Sarah Fisher
Tyler Fox
Grace Friebele
Ryan Friebele
Miles Funk
Adrian Galicia
Yarden Garcia Panozo
Dominic Gentile
Caroline Giambastiani
Joseph Glorioso
Caleb Goldman
Kathleen Gollie
Finnegan Grandy

Jadie Guevara
Luke Gulino
Caleb Hamlyn
Aria Harris
Joseph Hawkins
Kevin Hernandez
Romah Hernandez
Colin Hines
Scott Hollingsworth
Connor Hoppock
Patrick Hovatter
Adrianna Ingenito
Logan James
Kaylee Jimenez Lemuz
Grayson Johnson
Miles Johnson
Olivia Kania
Elijah Kavuma
Marvella Kavuma
Alice Keller
Wyatt Kelley
Emily Klaric
Elizabeth Klein
Lillian Kummerer
Maia Kupsky
Zayeer Laureano
Zion Laureano
Gabriela Le Febure
Catherine Leahy
Samuel Lescovitz
Evangeline Luque
Maximus Mace
Isaiah Mannon-James
Ayla May
Amalia McMahon
Rose McMahon
Tara McShea
Sophia Medina Fernandez
Elle Merkl
Lori Miller
Riley Minier
Gabriel Monteforte
Bianca Morales Corrales
Joshua Morales Munayco
Oliver Moreno
Aidan Motsinger
Sebastian Muriel
Adelaide Myers
Lucia Brooklyn Nguyen
John Nobles
Jeanelle Nunez Luque
Isabell Reagan Occidental
Brinlee Ortiz
Lukas Osorio Hoffman
Victoria Parada
Lucy Patrick
Victor Pavelko
Amias Paz
Michael Pereira
Emma Pezzini
Kellan Phillips
Jackson Phung
Ryan Phung
Elsie Powers

James Prociuk
Etta Proctor
Avery Quante
Callie Quante
Abigail Quispe
Stephanie Quispe
Nicholas Ramirez Villa
Ryan Rawlings
Santiago Rayco Orrillos
Bethany Reed
Brian Reed
Ashley Reyes Cruz
Michael Rodman
Penelope Rose
Viviana Rose
Eliam Ruano Anco
William Russell
Garrett Sadowski
Summer Sakran
Charles Sante
Hana Schiller
Reese Seiling
Declan Sharpes
Madison Sheeran
Alaina Shelton
Emma Silva
Andrew Sinclair
Ella Son
Evan Stohler
Alexa Suarez Pinaya
Cooper Takacs
Liliana Toledo
Hanna Torgersen
Camille Torrico
Robert Tramel
Alejandra Tunas
Declan Urena
Ainsley Uryga
Marie Vanderbeek
Gabriela Vargas
MacKenzie Vedder
Kyle Von Kattengell
Madison Vucci
Joseph Walters
Isabella Wampler
Mason Wears
Cory Williams
Bennett Wills
Isla Wong
Arianna Yanes
Lourdes Zando
Jonah Zummo



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.

**Church Of the Nativity
Parish Yard Sale for Charity
Saturday, June 28 - 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)

**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



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

Monday, May 12th

7:30 am Mother's Day Novena

Tuesday, May 13th

7:30 am Mother's Day Novena

12:00 pm † Lutgarda Salas

Wednesday, May 14th

7:30 am Mother's Day Novena

Thursday, May 15th

7:30 am † Corazon B. Mijares

12:00 pm Mother's Day Novena

Friday, May 16th

7:30 am † Lech Jasinski

9:00 am Mother's Day Novena

Saturday, May 17th

9:00 am Mother's Day Novena

5:00 pm † Almaryra "Lupita" Cadby-Shashaty

7:00 pm † Debora Rodriguez De Ortiz

Sunday, May 18th

7:00 am Mother's Day Novena

9:00 am † Sam Gensel

11:00 am Parishioners

1:00 pm † Agnes Lynch

5:30 pm † Bill Wilson

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



**St. Lucy Summer Food Drive to support Catholic Charities in its campaign against hunger in the Diocese will take place on:
Saturday, June 7th from 9:00AM-1:00PM**

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.

We can always use help with loading donations; if you'd like to volunteer, please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D49ADAE29A6FE3-stlucy1>.

If you would like to help hand out the blue bags after Mass on 31 May and 1 June, please join us in the narthex after Communion. If you have questions, please email the St. Lucy Team at nativity.stlucyteam@gmail.com. Thank you and God bless you!

Fiddler on the Roof

COMING TO:
Nativity Players
Theatre Ministry
July 17-19, 25 & 26

AUDITIONS:
Virtual Deadline May 9
In-Person May 15 & 16
Callbacks May 24

For more information:
Visit www.nativityburke.org/nativity-players
Email theatreministry@nativityburke.org

NATIVITY PLAYERS
theatre ministry

Based on Sholem Aleichem stories by special permission of Arnold Perl
Book by Joseph Stein • Music by Jerry Brock • Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick

Women of Nativity - Annual Baby Shower Weekend of May 31st and June 1st

It's that time again! Come help the Women of Nativity support expectant mothers. We're holding our annual Baby Shower after all Masses on May 31st/June 1st.

This year we've added Mary's Comfort, a new maternity home in Springfield, to our list of supported agencies that includes the MaRiH Center, Catholic Charities Pregnancy and Adoption Services, A Woman's Choice, ECHO, Lorton Community Action Center, Divine Mercy, Tepeyac and Hope in Northern Virginia. Your contributions will help ensure that these organizations can continue to support expectant mothers and their newborns.

Donations may be placed in the Pack N' Play in the Narthex from May 24th – June 1st. If you prefer not to shop, you can drop a donation in the bucket in the Narthex after Masses on May 31st and June 1st.

Requested items (must be new unless otherwise mentioned): Disposable diapers, diaper bags, waterproof pads, wipes, receiving blankets, onesies, sleepers, swaddlers, sling style baby carriers, hooded towels, wash cloths, bathtubs, bibs, burp cloths, socks, hats, mittens, pacifiers, teething rings, rattles, boys and girls clothing up to 3T, Gift Cards (Amazon, Walmart, Target, Uber), Similac Advance and Total Comfort formula, bottles, baby lotion, wash, shampoo, and detergent, rash ointment, infant grooming kit, summer maternity tops and bottoms and breast pumps.

Large items: Car seats (new only). Pack N' Plays (with bassinet feature also) and strollers can be gently used.

If you have questions, please contact Angela Coghlan at acoghlan@verizon.net.

SUPPORT YOUR RETIRED PRIESTS

Areas of Support:

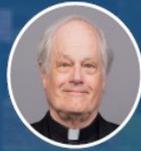
- St. Rose of Lima Priests' Retirement Villa
- Funds for future healthcare needs
- The Priests' Pension Fund

Our Priests at a Glance:

- Diocesan Priests: 176
- Retired: 29
- Retiring within 10 years: 22



"My retired brother priests and I are truly blessed to know of the care and compassion shown by parishioners through this special collection which helps to support us in our retirement years."



"Being retired and living at St. Rose of Lima Priest Retirement Villa is a great blessing. I am thankful for all who support us in our retirement."

-Fr. Tuck Grinnell

DIOCESAN RETIRED PRIESTS' SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND!

There will be a second collection for our diocesan retired priests on the weekend of May 18. This collection is an opportunity for you to give back to our retired priests who have given the greater part of their lives to serve each of you and our diocesan Church.

Currently there are 29 retired priests and an additional 22 diocesan priests who will retire in the next ten years.

Please consider donating to this important collection.

Thank you for your kind support.

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

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



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/>

NATIVITY ITALIAN HERITAGE & CULTURAL SOCIETY MAY MEETING: THURSDAY, MAY 22 AT 7:00 PM IN THE NATIVITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN WITH:
"NAME THOSE FAMOUS ITALIAN AMERICANS"
FROM THE SCREEN, STAGE, POLITICS, ART, COOKING AND CULTURE. WE'LL HAVE PRIZES FOR FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD PLACE FOR NAMING THE MOST FAMOUS ITALIAN AMERICANS CORRECTLY AND WE EVEN HAVE A TIEBREAKER.
SO COME AND JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN AND STAY AFTERWARDS TO SOCIALIZE WITH YOUR FRIENDS.
SOCIAL HOUR WITH WINE AND SNACKS FOLLOWS. IF YOU CAN, PLEASE BRING AN APPETIZER OR DESSERT TO SHARE.
GUESTS CAN ATTEND FOR \$5.00.

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 with Mother's names will be placed on the Altar during the month of May.

NOVENA MASSES:	Sunday, May 11	7:00AM
	Monday, May 12	7:30AM
	Tuesday, May 13	7:30AM
	Wednesday, May 14	7:30AM
	Thursday, May 15	12:00PM
	Friday, May 16	9:00AM
	Saturday, May 17	9:00AM
	Sunday, May 18	7:00AM
	Monday, May 19	7:30AM



REJOICE!

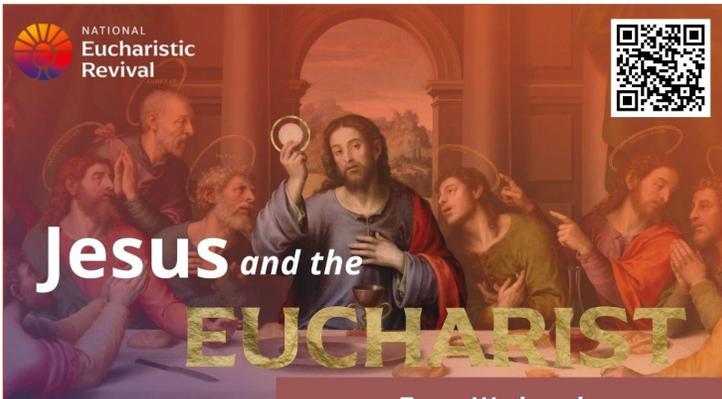
JOIN THE CELEBRATION!!
 THE 2024-25 SPECIAL RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT (SPRED)
 END OF YEAR MASS WITH BISHOP BURBIDGE

COME CELEBRATE THE BEAUTIFUL MINISTRY OF SPRED!!
 SUNDAY, MAY 18TH @ THE 9:30 MASS
 ALL SAINTS CHURCH
 (RESERVED SEATING – FRONT CENTER SECTION)
 9300 STONEWALL RD., MANASSAS 20110

***BRUNCH WILL FOLLOW IN THE PARISH ACTIVITY CENTER (PAC)

**ALL SPRED FRIENDS, VOLUNTEERS, FAMILIES,
 AND EXTENDED FAMILIES ARE INVITED!!**



Jesus and the EUCHARIST

Every Wednesday
 thru June 18 | 7:00pm
 Fr. Ready Room
 Open to all Adults in the Parish

Join us for this dynamic small group study designed to help you connect with your fellow parishioners as you immerse yourself in the beauty of our faith, hear from some of the most brilliant voices in Catholicism, and explore the mystery of the Eucharist anew!

For more information, please see our parish website or contact email alicud@nativityburke.org




TRIVIA NIGHT

TOP 3 TEAM PRIZES!

BYO FOOD & DRINKS



Saturday, May 17 | 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
 Fr. Martin Center (Gym)
 Doors open at 6:30 PM

Form Teams up to 8 Players. Free Agents Welcome
 BE CREATIVE: THEME Your Team or Table

Tickets are \$10 a person
 Limited Time Offer: Buy a round with Fr. Bresnahan \$30

Purchase online at:
<https://nativitytrivia.givesmart.com>

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 MINISTRY

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

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. You would need to be available from Monday, June 23 - Thursday, June 26. 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](https://www.instagram.com/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 May 1, our pledges and one-time donations total \$763,271 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.



SCAN ME

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.

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



Share Your Heart — Teach a Child



Our Religious Education Program Needs Volunteers— Will You Answer the Call?

What does it mean to volunteer your time to teach a child?

- It means being the reason a child smiles with pride after learning something new.
- It means lighting a spark that could grow into a lifelong passion.
- It means showing a child that they matter—that someone believes in their future.

When you volunteer to teach, you're not just giving your time—

You're giving love, faith, and the priceless gift of learning about God's love.

Our Religious Education Program is in need of caring, committed volunteers

to teach religious education and help guide children in their faith journey.

You don't need to be a theologian—just someone with a kind heart,
a little patience, and a love for sharing God's Word.

★ Your presence could be the turning point in a child's spiritual life.

Are you ready to be that someone?

Sign up today to join our program and inspire young hearts in faith and love.

<https://nativityburke.org/re/>

For Questions, email us at: nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org

We need:

- Lead Catechists
- Assistant Catechists
- Office Volunteers
- SPRED Volunteers



NOTE: All volunteers working with children must complete Diocesan Paperwork and background check.





A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Hummingbirds may be the tiniest birds on the planet, but they are among the easiest and most delightful to observe. Ruby-throated hummingbirds are especially common in Northern Virginia during the spring migration months of April and May and are the only species of hummingbirds who breed here. Most ruby-throated hummingbirds we'll spot in the next few weeks are flying through to other destinations. But some will choose to stay for weeks if the landscape offers them what they need. How can we attract this most wondrous of God's creatures?

Hummingbirds have extreme metabolisms. A ruby-throated hummingbird's heart beats up to 1,200 times per minute and its wings beat 53 times per second. They must consume very specific foods to survive, and they eat almost constantly. Approximately 20% of a hummingbird's diet is nectar, a source of high-quality carbohydrates for their energy needs. They are therefore attracted to areas with nectar-producing native plants, many of which you can purchase, plant and grow. Cardinal Flower, Eastern Red Columbine, and Coral Honeysuckle are considered the "big three" wildflower nectar sources for hummingbirds with Coral Honeysuckle the number one recommended attractant. Their flowers are all red, which signals the presence of carbohydrates to hummingbirds. They have also developed long tubular flowers, making them ideal sources of nectar for hovering, long-billed hummingbirds.

Although we tend to think of hummingbirds as mostly nectar eaters, only 20% of their diet is nectar while 80% is composed of insects and spiders. Only the biologically diverse ecosystems that Pope Francis talked about in Laudato Si, have incorporated a range of native plants and native trees that can produce enough insects and spiders to feed any species of birds consistently and well. This is because native plants and trees co-evolved with specific insects, so they are entirely interdependent upon one another. If your yard is bereft of native plants and trees, hummingbirds can't stay there, especially when you consider that they build their nests using spider silk to bind and hold the construction materials together. Such a landscape can neither feed them nor help them to successfully breed. It also follows that you must not spray your yard with insecticides, since chemicals intended to kill ticks or adult mosquitoes will kill all the other insects as well. Treat these amazing creatures well with your landscape choices and they will reward you by returning year after year. *(Adapted from Plant Nova Natives)*

Pro-Life Corner:

IVF and the Christian Family - Fertility and in vitro fertilization (IVF) are incredibly sensitive topics and deserve to be treated with a spirit of accompaniment, compassion, and understanding. Bishop Burbidge encourages considering his pastoral letter: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/2025/01/22/the-christian-family-in-vitro-fertilization-and-heroic-witness-to-true-love/>
Navigating the Tough Topic of Same Sex Attraction with Faith - May 14, from 5:00-6:30pm

Join us for a thought-provoking discussion series empowering parents to guide their children with the wisdom and beauty of Catholic Teachings. The Catholic faith calls us to engage with life's toughest questions. Join us in the Guadalupe Room at St. Leo the Great for a session on Same Sex Attraction. No registration needed—just come as you are! All are welcome. Let's grow in faith and understanding together.

Help Deliver Baby Cribs through "Project Manger" - June 14th from 9:30am-Noon. Join us on at A Woman Choice Center, 6201 Leesburg Pike, #220, Falls Church. Only need to deliver new boxed cribs and packaged sheets in local area around Falls Church, no assembly required. Contact rickloffredo@outlook.com.

A Woman's Choice Center - Providing Compassionate Support – Free pregnancy, medical, educational, and support services for women and families. awomanschoicecenter.com, 703.538.4305

The Planned Parenthood Myth/Defund Planned Parenthood - "Planned Parenthood supporters insist that if the abortion giant loses its ~\$700 million taxpayer subsidy, women will lose access to basic health care. The reality is that the legitimate services Planned Parenthood claims to provide are overstated--and widely available elsewhere. Former Planned Parenthood manager Ramona Trevino recently joined The 40 Days for Life Podcast to expose how the abortion chain uses the "basic health care" myth as a cover for killing hundreds of thousands of babies every year." (40daysforlife.com)

Tepeyac Pro-Life OB/GYN - Faith-based Pro-life OB/GYN: restoring 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.

Mary's Comfort of VA - Ensuring Expectant Mothers Shelter, Support and New Beginnings: Provides training in parenting and life skills, career coaching and educational advancement. maryscomfortva.org, 703.455.4500.

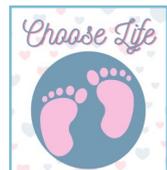


Catholic Charities Pregnancy and Adoption Services - Provides transformative services to those impacted by unplanned pregnancy. <https://www.cca.net/need-help/pregnancy-and-adoption-services/>, 703.841.3830.

Project Rachel - Help after Abortion: A safe place to share your emotions and work toward healing, helpafterabortion.org, 703.841.2504.

Rachel's Vineyard - A safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem broken hearts: Weekend retreats offer supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment. www.rachelsvineyard.org/, 877.467.3463.

Marian Homes: Purchases and maintains affordable homes for individuals with intellectual disabilities. marianhomes.org/.




Marriage Enrichment Ministry
Spring Program
Renewed: 7 Steps for an Amazing Marriage
 REMAINING SESSIONS: FRIDAYS, MAY 9 AND 16
 FROM 6:30 - 8:30 PM
 NATIVITY SCHOOL TEACHER'S LOUNGE - POTLUCK DINNER
 CONTACT ANNA LISA: marriage@nativityburke.org

NO HANDS BUT YOURS MINISTRY

No Hands But Yours is an original Nativity Ministry doing God's work by serving those less fortunate members of His flock. We work distributing food, clothing, and personal items to the poor and homeless in DC and northern VA every Sunday morning, rain or shine.

We also have weekly trips into designated areas bringing Panera bread donations along with help from local food banks. Through the blessings of God, we have grown through our Nativity community and continue to do so. For more details visit the Nativity Parish website at <https://nativityburke.org/service/no-hands-but-yours/>. Families are also welcomed!

If you have interest in learning more and would like to participate in daily/Sunday runs, please contact John Rubino at: john.albert.rubino@gmail.com.

The 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.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:

The next Prayer Shawl meeting will be held on Monday morning, May 19th at 9:30 am in the Fr. Ready room. This ministry is open to all members of our community!

It provides a tangible sign of our prayers and concern to the critically ill. Members lovingly craft shawls, which are subsequently blessed by a priest, and shared with those who are in need.

**small group
for married
young adult
women**



Mondays at 7:30pm, biweekly,
hosted in the home of one of the leaders.

If interested, email Alison at afram@nativityburke.org for details.

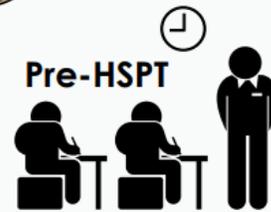


The Ancient Order of Hibernians, Monsignor Bradican Division, invites all Catholic men of Irish descent to join the oldest and largest Irish Organization in America.

We welcome new members to celebrate our Irish heritage and live our motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. For more information, please contact Bill Canavan at wcanavan@cox.net.



ST. PAUL VI
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



Pre-HSPT

What: Practice version of the High School Placement Test (HSPT)

Who: Students entering 8th grade in the 2025-2026 school year

When: Monday, July 28, 2025 from 9 a.m. - noon
Monday, August 11, 2025 from 9 a.m. - noon

Where: St. Paul VI Catholic High School
42341 Braddock Road, Chantilly, VA 20152

Register: www.paulvi.net/admissions/application-process



Contact: admissions@paulvi.net

Optional Parent Info Session on Test Dates: 11:30 a.m. in the PVI theatre, which will include details about Paul VI and the admissions process.

We look forward to welcoming you to campus!

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 and download one. Registration is required to be a Baptismal Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor.

Consider a volunteer mentor role at Mary's Comfort!

Mary's Comfort maternity shelter is growing our mentoring team! We are in need of additional mentors to work directly with our guests and closely with other dedicated volunteers as we support pregnant women in crisis. Please see our website for more details about our program <https://www.maryscomfortva.org/>. If interested in becoming a mentor, email maryscomfortva@gmail.com with a brief summary of your interest and your contact information. Your love and support will make a long-term positive impact on the lives of pregnant mothers and their children.



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



Just Watch Our Garden Grow

From our graduating Eighth Graders to the youngest among us – our preschool and pre-K students – all of our students spend time working in our greenhouse and gardens. In fact, recently, our preschool and pre-K students invited their parents to visit their Early Childhood classrooms, help decorate pots for the students to plant seeds into and take home, and then join their children outside at Nativity’s Greenhouse for a ‘planting with parents event,’ where moms and dads and their kids planted herbs as a part of the school’s greenhouse initiative.



Important Upcoming Dates ~

- Tuesday, May 13 – Spanish Exam - 7th grade
- Tuesday, May 13 – NWEA Testing Begins
- Wednesday, May 14 – Battle of the Books ‘Battle’
- Thursday, May 15 – Spirit Day!
- Friday, May 16 – Mother & Mother Figures’ High Tea
- Saturday, May 17 – Trivia Night
- Monday, May 19 – Golf Tournament
- Monday, May 19 – Shakespeare Week Begins
- Thursday, May 22 – Charlotte’s Web Debut

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.

Sign Up For the Diocesan E-Newsletter!

Receive special video messages from our bishop, learn about unique opportunities to get involved, and be the first to know The news about our Diocese - straight to your inbox.
 Sign up here: arlingtondiocese.org/email



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



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.

End of School BBQ: Friday, June 6, last day of school at Nativity, the council will provide a BBQ. Join the grill crew! SUG is pending.

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 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 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



There are various camps this summer, including baseball, basketball, tennis, football, field hockey, lacrosse, theatre, pops band, soccer, and more.



SCAN ME

www.paulvi.net/summercamps
 42341 Braddock Road, Chantilly, VA

MORNING OF REFLECTION

for Parents and Grandparents
Who Have Lost Children *and* Grandchildren

MAY 31, 2025 | 9:15AM

ST. MARY OF SORROWS CATHOLIC CHURCH

10500 ZION DR., FAIRFAX, VA

FEATURING:



DCN. DAVE MAURER

DEACON, ST. MARY OF SORROWS, FAIRFAX



ELIZABETH LEON

NATIONAL SPEAKER AND AUTHOR



SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE AND TO REGISTER:

[ARLINGTONDIOCESE.ORG/PARENTSMASS](https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/parentsmaass)

BATTLE OF THE SERVERS

Thursday July 10
10:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
St. Leo Parish
3700 Blenheim Blvd.
Fairfax, VA



Compete against other parishes for points and spirit.

Enjoy BBQ'd dogs and burgers with Bishop Burbidge.



Get your parish team together today!



2024 winners: Holy Spirit Parish

**NATIVITY
PARISH
SIGN-UPS
COMING
IN JUNE**



**OUR LADY OF ANGELS PARISH
AND TE LIBENTER SOCIARE OF THE DIOCESES
OF ARLINGTON**



SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

**Silent retreat of prayer to meditate, get to know
oneself, and thus encounter God.**



**This retreat is open to adult women and
men aged 18 and over.**

**Retreat's director:
Fr. Armando Marsal DCJM**



**MAY 23rd TO
MAY 25TH
2025**



**LOYOLA ON THE POTOMAC
9270 Loyola Retreat Road
Faulkner, Maryland 20632**



\$270



telibentersociare@gmail.com

**Open for all the Diocese of
Arlington**

For registration:

**SCAN
ME!**



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSewTEamcYnY7PlhQqBCNsxET9oytX_IAGbLGWMyk_tyY-y-og/viewform





PROROME



REGISTER TODAY

A Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy

*Join Monsignor Saunders & the Office of Faith Formation
of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, Virginia*

This Catholic journey features two nights in Assisi and six nights in Rome, with a day-trip to Orvieto built in as well. Daily Mass – the cornerstone of each day – will be complemented by a rich Catholic touring program designed to bring pilgrims face to face with the great saints, martyrs, Eucharistic Miracles and cultural heritage of Roman Catholicism. Highlights include St. Peter's Basilica, the Papal Basilicas, the Catacombs, the Colosseum and Roman Forum, the Pantheon, many incredible saints and holy sites, and finally our participation in the Jubilee of Catechists Events.

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.



PROROME



REGISTER TODAY

Una peregrinación jubilar a Italia

Únase al Padre Jeb Donelan y al Cursillo de Cristiandad de la Diócesis de Arlington

Este viaje católico incluye dos noches en Asís, dos noches en San Giovanni Rotondo y cuatro noches en Roma, con excursiones de un día a Orvieto y Montecassino también incluidas. La misa diaria, la piedra angular de cada día, se complementará con un rico programa de visitas católicas diseñado para poner a los peregrinos cara a cara con los grandes santos, mártires, milagros eucarísticos y el patrimonio cultural del catolicismo romano. Los aspectos más destacados incluyen la Basílica de San Pedro, las Basílicas Papales, las Catacumbas, el Panteón y muchos santos, iglesias, basílicas y lugares sagrados increíbles en toda Italia.

Se han organizado pasajes aéreos de ida y vuelta y hermosos hoteles de cuatro estrellas ubicados en el centro. Un guía turístico de ProRome acompañará al grupo durante todo el peregrinaje, con transporte en autobús privado, guías turísticos católicos, todos los recorridos y entradas, desayuno diario y almuerzo o cena diarios incluidos en el precio.

14 al 23 de octubre de 2025

\$3390 por persona, solo por tierra

\$4664 por persona (incluye pasaje aéreo desde el aeropuerto Washington Dulles)

Para obtener más información o registrarse, visite www.prorometours.com/CursillodeCristiandad o comuníquese directamente con ProRome Tours al (434) 953 1112 o por correo electrónico a office@prorome.com.

¿Iglesia accidentada o enferma?

5º Pascua ©

Javier Leoz

Lo señala la primera lectura de este domingo; Pablo y Bernabé animaban a aquellas primitivas comunidades cristianas y, entre otras cosas, les recordaban que creer en Jesús no siempre iba a ser algo dulce al paladar. Tal vez, Pablo, intuía que en el horizonte de la naciente Iglesia la fortaleza de los cristianos y su valentía a la hora de profesar la fe iba a ser determinante para que el mensaje del cristianismo siguiese adelante.



1. Hoy, esta lección, sigue estando de total actualidad en el marco en el que nos encontramos. La Iglesia, una y otra vez, está siendo sometida a un constante examen ¿Es fiel al Señor? ¿Es reflejo del Evangelio? Si San Pablo apareciese entre nosotros nos recordaría de nuevo aquello que, en la primera lectura, acabamos de escuchar: “hay que pasar mucho”. “El que algo quiere algo le cuesta” (dice un viejo refrán). La vida cristiana, tesoro escondido y perla preciosa para millones de personas, ha de tener una consecuencia: el testimonio vivo y convencido de lo que somos. El amor, como distintivo o la confianza en Dios, como seguridad, han de ser –entre otros muchos- los apoyos o muletas para perseverar y morir como lo que somos: cristianos. El Papa Francisco, recientemente afirmaba: “Prefiero una Iglesia accidentada (en referencia a su encuentro con el mundo) a una Iglesia enferma (aquella que se cierra en sí misma)”.

2. ¿Hay que pasar mucho? Tampoco es cuestión de exagerar. Nos cuesta ser signo de contradicción. Si comparásemos un poco la situación un tanto light en la que vivimos muchos católicos con aquella otra, radical y nítida, de los primeros cristianos, comprenderíamos que no es tanto lo que estamos sufriendo por nuestra fe (por lo menos en la mayoría de los países). La Iglesia, desde el mismo momento de su nacimiento, ha estado y lo sigue estando, sujeta a una constante purificación (y eso es bueno). Siglos después, con tantos acontecimientos y contradicciones, con luchas y pesares, con persecuciones o aplausos, seguimos apostando por Aquel en el que están puestas nuestras esperanzas y por el que, muchos de nosotros, ponemos la cara: Cristo.

¿Hay que pasar mucho? ¡Lo suficiente y justo! Defendiendo, sin temor ni temblor, nuestros ideales cristianos. Ofreciendo buenas obras y desparramando lo mejor de nosotros mismos, aún a riesgo de ser tildados de débiles o necios.

¿Hay que pasar mucho? ¡Claro que sí! No renunciando a lo que es esencial en nuestra fe y en nuestra identidad como cristianos. No somos ninguna “ONG”. Nuestro resorte y sustento está en Cristo que, entre otras muchas más cosas, es fuente de la bondad y del bien que realizamos en pro de los demás.

¿Hay que aguantar? ¡Claro está! La fe no se impone pero, tampoco, se renuncia a ella a la primera de cambio. No ha sido nunca fácil creer y, en los tiempos que vivimos donde todo se relativiza y hasta se trata a Dios de “tú”, se hace necesario un volver a las fuentes de la fe. A interrogarnos sobre si, nuestra vida cristiana, es algo real o solamente un maniquí que no sirve para nada, ni dice nada a nadie porque no existe como tal.

Que el Señor, en este tiempo de la Santa Pascua, nos ayude a descubrir la razón y el motor de nuestra fe: su Resurrección. Cerrarnos en nuestros prejuicios, en si los tiempos pasados fueron mejores o peores... sólo nos llevará a una parálisis en nuestra acción evangelizadora.

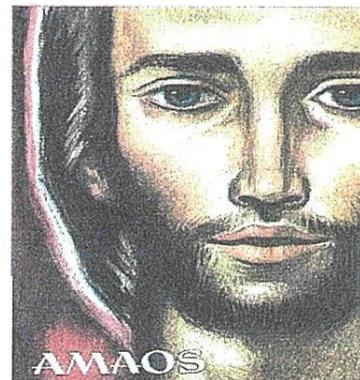
POR TI, SEÑOR

Daremos razón de tu nombre,
aunque, el hablar de Ti,
nos cause desasosiego o incompreensión
Ofreceremos, nuestras manos abiertas,
aún a riesgo de ser tratados como ilusos
de que, lo que damos o hacemos,
no sirve de nada ante un mundo
en el que sólo se valora lo que se paga
POR TI, SEÑOR

Miraremos al cielo buscando un rasgo de tu presencia
Miraremos hacia el duro asfalto
para llevar tu Buena Noticia
la alegría de tu ser resucitado
tu Palabra, como aliento y vida
tu rostro que tonifique nuestra triste existencia.
POR TI, SEÑOR

Amaremos, aún no siendo amados
Y, en medida rebosante y sin cuenta,
colmaremos y calmaremos
los corazones que necesitan paz
las almas que se han tornado en tibias
los pies que se resisten a caminar
los ojos que se han quedado en el vacío
POR TI, SEÑOR

Mantendremos, eternamente nuevo,
el mandamiento que Tú nos dejaste:
amar, sin mirar a quién
amar, sin contar las horas
amar, con corazón y desde el corazón
amar, buscando el bien del contrario
amar, buscándote en el hermano
POR TI, SEÑOR



Javier Leoz

Aprende tu Fe

El mundo sacramental

Autor: P. Carlos Miguel Buela, I.V.E.



Juan Pablo II dijo bellamente: «La Eucaristía es verdaderamente un resquicio del cielo que se abre sobre la tierra... Es un rayo de gloria de la Jerusalén celestial, que penetra en las nubes de nuestra historia y proyecta luz sobre nuestro camino». (Carta Encíclica Ecclesia de Eucaristía, sobre la Eucaristía en su relación con la Iglesia, 19)

Debemos hacer una reflexión sobre lo que es el mundo fascinante y sobrenatural propio de los sacramentos. Y lo quiero hacer por medio de una comparación.

a. El mundo visible, sensible

En primer lugar nos encontramos en el mundo visible, sensible. Es este mundo que vemos, creado por Dios, y en él vivimos sumergidos en miles de formas distintas, agradables a los ojos con colores distintos sin número, cientos de perfumes deleitables al olfato, sonidos variadísimos que recrean el oído, tersuras de las más variadas que percibe el tacto deleitándose, multiformes comidas y bebidas que sacian el gusto.

Es el mundo de la creación visible: Multitud de seres bellos pueblan la tierra, el mar y el aire.

Debemos hacer rápida y brevemente una suerte de descripción, como para captar más la belleza de ese mundo visible.

Tenemos árboles con su variedad de formas de colores, unos se yerguen altos hacia el cielo, otros son bajos y achaparrados, y también observar la variedad de colores que tienen ¡La variedad de hojas verdes (que se puede apreciar aquí)!, con maderas de distinta fuerza, vetas, dureza, tersuras, formas y perfumes: el roble, el cedro, el pino, el álamo, los plátanos, los eucaliptos, las araucarias, el algarrobo, el jingo biloba (árbol de China), el quebracho, los abedules, las secuoias, las magnolias, el laurel... Y los árboles frutales en su inmensa variedad, de formas, colores, gustos (que pareciera sirven a los enólogos para clasificar todos los gustos conocidos)... Los arbustos ornamentales: las glicinas, la flor china, el farolito japonés, la Santa Rita...; las madreselvas, los jazmines del país, las hiedras, las retamas, helechos... Las demás flores orgullosas de sus olores y de sus colores: la rosa, reina de las flores, el jazmín, los claveles, siemprevivas, gladiolos, narcisos, orquídeas, azucenas, hortensias, calas, etc. Los granos: trigo, maíz, cebada, centeno... Las verduras... ¡Cuántos vegetales son curativos o se les da usos gastronómicos!

Los distintos tipos de animales: vacuno, porcino, caprino, ovino, equino... El ganado selvático... Las aves de corral... El mundo viscoso de las sierpes... (si van alguna vez a un serpentario verán que no hay dos víboras iguales: más grandes, más chicas, unas de un color, otras de otro...).

Si miramos al aire veremos multitud de pájaros de variadas formas, colores, así la tijereta, el jilguero, los canarios, los zorzales, los horneros, benteveos... y vemos que unos tienen copete, otros no; unos tienen pico grande, otros pequeño...; o la diferente forma de cantar, como el zorzal, la calandria,

o de volar, los gorriones; o de hacer sus nidos, como los de urraca u hornero, o como los que hacen las catas; o ponen huevos de distinto tamaño y color, así el de la urraca es redondo y con pintas, pero otros son ovalados o más pequeños, diferentes formas de empollar, de criar sus pichones...

Así en los insectos encontramos las variopintas mariposas, las abejas laboriosas, las molestas moscas y los mosquitos, los San Antonio apacibles...

Vemos en el cielo las nubes –agua en estado gaseoso– cambiantes de color y forma, eternas peregrinas que llevan en sus odres la lluvia para fecundar los campos y que son las que dinámicamente convierten en distinto un mismo paisaje salido de la paleta del Divino Pintor, y cambiante no sólo de día en día, sino de minuto en minuto. A veces esas mansas nubes nos ensordecen con sus truenos y deslumbran con sus rayos y relámpagos. Las montañas con «su blanco poncho de nieves» –agua en estado sólido–, grandes y bellos tanques de agua destilada que, según las variables meteorológicas, se van derritiendo de a poco, formando ríos y lagos, que luego de regar la tierra van a dar en el mar. Allí vemos el sol, la luna, las estrellas de distintas magnitudes, los planetas, las galaxias, las nebulosas, los quasar, los agujeros negros...

Y los ríos, lagos y mares –agua en estado líquido–, ¡cuán poblados de seres vivos, variadísimos! Peces de todo tipo, forma, color, gusto, costumbre... los moluscos (entre ellos los mariscos), grandes animales: ballenas, focas, lobos marinos, tiburones (con más de 340 especies conocidas y demás de la familia como los pez espada y las carpas...), delfines, cocodrilos, hipopótamos...

Debemos incluir aquí las obras de las manos del hombre... arte... Todo lo que el hombre hace... Las manifestaciones culturales en el baile, ballet... ciencia... la técnica... así los autos, aviones, barcos, submarinos, naves espaciales... los medios de comunicación... las industrias de todo tipo...

Y el hombre puede hacerlo porque Dios le dio el poder, la capacidad....

¡Es la belleza del mundo visible! ¡El cielo canta la gloria de Dios! (Sl 18,2).

b. El mundo invisible, no-sensible

Pero hay otro mundo, que ya no es visible. Es el mundo invisible. No sé si recordarán aquello del Principito: «Lo esencial es invisible a los ojos» (1), que de alguna manera ya lo había dicho san Pablo cuando dice: no ponemos nuestros ojos en las cosas visibles, sino en las invisibles; pues las cosas visibles son pasajeras, mas las invisibles son eternas (2Cor 4,18). El mundo invisible es bello, y podemos decir ¡infinitamente bello!, porque a él pertenece Dios que es infinito y es espíritu infinito. Es el mundo de Dios increado, el mundo de las tres divinas personas. Pero también hay criaturas creadas espirituales: los ángeles y las almas humanas con su inteligencia y voluntad racionales. Y lo que nuestra alma produce, y que no siempre sale al exterior: sus pensamientos, su querer, cosas realmente extraordinarias.

c. El mundo visible–invisible

Y ese mundo sacramental del todo especial, que es creado por Dios, y que toma algo del mundo visible, pero que también tiene mucho del mundo invisible. Toma algo del mundo visible, como nuestro Señor, que quiso ser bautizado con las aguas del río Jordán. ¿Qué es lo visible? El agua, que es un signo sensible. El mundo sacramental tiene leyes propias; consistencia propia, un



What else did Jesus say?



To find out, write the first letter of each object. Then use the letters to fill in Jesus' words.

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



9.



10.



“ 6 1 7 2 10 5 3
 4 1 10 5 3 9 1 9 3
 8 7 3 ”

Jesus had done many wonderful and amazing things.

Use the code to discover the missing words in the list of things Jesus did that the Bible tells us about. Then put the boxed letters in the blanks to complete Jesus' statement.

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

_____ were cast out
X Q J 7 U V

_____ could see
2 6 3 U X

_____ were fed
F 5 7 H X V

_____ was turned to wine
H Z 4 Q 5

_____ walked
F 5 3 G G 6 Q V

_____ were healed
6 Q G Q 5 V

_____ were raised
X Q Z X

_____ were made well
V 3 F Y

“The _____ I do
in My Father's name speak for Me.”



Jesus at the Feast of Dedication

Jesus was in the temple in Jerusalem.
Some people asked Him a question.

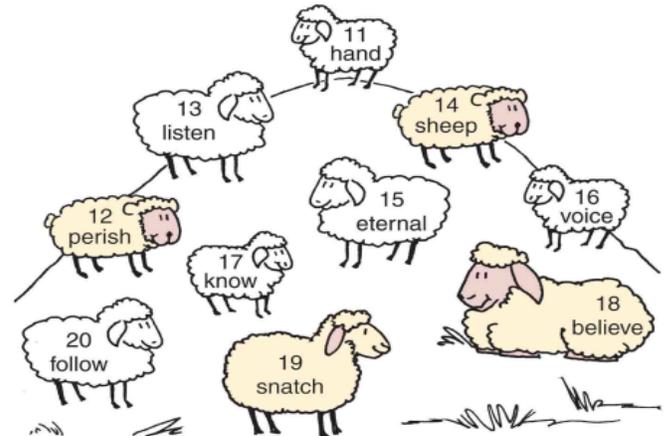
Find 6 letters in the picture.
Place them in the blanks to make the missing word.



“Are You the _____?”

How could the people see Jesus perform miracles and still not believe?

Solve the math problems to find the missing words.



“You do not _____ because you are not My
 $16 + 2 =$
 _____. My sheep _____ to My
 $21 - 7 =$ _____ $9 + 4 =$
 _____; I _____ them, and they
 $8 \times 2 =$ _____ $19 - 2 =$
 _____. Me. I give them _____ life,
 $4 \times 5 =$ _____ $3 \times 5 =$
 and they shall never _____; no one can
 $3 \times 4 =$
 _____ them out of My _____.”
 $22 - 3 =$ _____ $21 - 10 =$ _____

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