# Behold, I Am with you Always



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

REV. ROBERT C. CILINSKI, PASTOR

REV. EDWARD BRESNAHAN, PAROCHIAL VICAR

REV. JONATHAN BENNETT, PAROCHIAL VICAR

REV. CEDRIC P. WILSON, ASSISTING PRIEST/

SPANISH MINISTRY DEC. RICHARD F. KELLY

#### SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

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

#### MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

#### MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

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

#### CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

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



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

SUNDAY MASSES: 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass

7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass in Spanish 7:00 a.m./9:00 a.m./11:00 a.m./

1:00 p.m./5:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES: 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday

12:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

9:00 a.m. on Saturday

HOLY DAY MASSES: As Announced

RECONCILIATION: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. on Saturday

or, if necessary, by appointment

BAPTISM: For more information and how to schedule a baptism, please visit our website:

https://nativityburke.org/baptism/

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

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

#### WEBMASTER:

Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

#### SOCIAL MEDIA:

Mary Castellano, socialmedia@nativityburke.org

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



#### THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION

"Then he led them (out) as far as Bethany, raised his hands, and blessed them. As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven. They did him homage and then returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple praising God."

~ Luke 24:50-53

My dear parishioners,

The Feast of the Ascension of Jesus into heaven is one of victory and glory. Jesus triumphantly returns to heaven to prepare a place for each of us. "The strife is o'er, the battle won." It would be a mistake to interpret the Ascension as the absence of Christ from the world. Jesus is now with us in a new way, in His Church and in the Holy Spirit. The Christ spirit is making of the world a new creation. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said, "We go to heaven to the extent that we go to Jesus Christ and enter into him. Heaven is a person. Jesus himself is what we call 'heaven."

We rejoice with our children who made their First Communion and thank their parents and teachers for bringing them to Jesus. We pray for our teenagers who will be confirmed on Saturday May 18th.

Today I celebrate my 45th anniversary of ordination. I have had a beautiful priesthood and thank God for the opportunity to be one of your priests at Nativity. God is faithful to his promise to always be with us when we say yes to his call.

Today we also honor all mothers for the self sacrificing love they bestow and the gift of life they nurture and share with God. Happy Mother's Day to all!

Love and Blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

#### MOTHER'S DAY MASSES

A Novena of nine Masses will be said during the month of May for Mothers, living and deceased. Spiritual Bouquet cards may be found at the back of the Church and Parish office.

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

#### NOVENA MASSES

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



Loving God,

You have loved us with an everlasting love (- Jer 31:3) You have loved us even more as a mother loved her child. Today, we give you thanks and praise for the gift of mothers.

We pray for the mothers-to-be, who are just beginning to be the bearers of new life in them, may they welcome their forthcoming child with loving anticipation and joy.

We pray for the young mothers, may they cherish their child with tender care and unconditional love.

We pray for the mothers who are separated from their children especially because of sickness, war, poverty, conflict, violence and for any other reasons.

Comfort them, strengthen their hope, and let them feel your loving embrace that wipes every tear away.

We pray for all Mother-figures, those who have loved, surrounded and shaped us with motherly care and compassion.

We especially pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us. Their sacrifices and care gave us a glimpse of the extent of your love for us.

Thank you for them. Grant health, blessings, and well-being for those mothers who are still alive.

We also remember those mothers who are no longer with us. While they live forever in our hearts and memory grant them eternal rest and reward of their labors.

Amen.



#### Annual Multi-Car Raffle

Nativity parishioners continued their winning streak!! We sold more tickets than last year and had three winners: one \$5,000 cash prize and two cars, the Ford Bronco and Mustang!

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.



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

At the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception 4th Street & Michigan Avenue, NE Washington, D.C. 20017 on 1566 Saturday, 18 May 2024, Mass Time: 4:30 pm. Honoring the men and women of the Armed Forces Principal Celebrant and Homilist The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D., Archbishop Parking is limited. Car pooling advised. Military personnel are encouraged to be in uniform Dress: Civilian - Business Attire Military - Service Dress To request seating or to obtain additional information, please visit: https://www.milarch.org/memorial-mass/laity-registration

#### The Associates of St. John Bosco - College Nights

Attention Class of 2024! The Associates of St. John Bosco (ASJB), a Catholic non-profit in Northern Virginia founded by Fr. Christopher Vaccaro, will be hosting 5 free College Nights for graduated high school seniors heading to college this summer. 2024 College Night Dates & Locations:

July 2nd - St. Mark (Vienna) July 11th - St. Theresa (Ashburn) July 16th - Holy Trinity (Gainesville) July 23rd - Basilica of St. Mary (Alexandria) July 30th - St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception (Fredericksburg)

These events help rising college freshmen network with other Catholics heading to college, and give students the tools to navigate the often difficult transition of faith life in college. Students hear from upperclassmen who give their personal tips and testimonies about how they transitioned to college and maintained a strong faith life. There are small groups divided by students' universities and students walk away with a free bundle of Catholic books called the "Bosco Bundle" to bring to college that will help them deepen their faith while away at school. The events come with a free pizza dinner, too. Registration is FREE! To register, please visit: https://www.asjb.org/student-registration.

#### BLESSED CARLOS ACUTIS EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBIT

At Saint Raymond of Penafort Church June 14-16, 2024

This exhibit, along with a first-class relic of Blessed Carlo, will be on display in the Parish Hall (8750 Pohick Road, Springfield, VA) Friday 2:00-7:00pm, Saturday 9:00am-7:00pm and Sunday 9:00am-4:00pm. You can browse through the exhibit at your own pace, take time to venerate the relic, as well as enjoy a 35-minute video on the life of Blessed Carlo Acutis. During these years of Eucharistic Revival, let us take advantage of this opportunity, to not only learn more about this Saint of our times, but to also draw closer to the Real Presence of our Eucharistic Lord.



## TWO WORDS: "THE NATIVITY YARD SALE IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!"

During your annual spring clean-up and before tossing out your former "treasures", please consider storing them in a corner of your garage or basement for donation to the Annual Yard Sale. The Nativity Annual Yard Sale for Charity sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Father Vincent S. Sikora Council 7992, is Saturday, June 29, 2024. Collections will begin Saturday, June 22, 2024 and continue through Wednesday June 26, 2024. Donations are tax-deductible and sincerely appreciated.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO FR. BOB CILINSKI On the 45th anniversary of your ordination: May 12th, 2024



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



#### The Seven Sisters Apostolate

The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a call for women to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of our parish priests. It is a "holy wasting" or "lavishing of prayer" for their deeper conformity to Christ.

This apostolate is relatively new, having started in 2010 in Minnesota by Janette Howe. During a walk one day, it occurred to Janette that the very least she might do in gratitude for her priests' ever-generous pastoral care would be to offer a Holy Hour once a week for him. The rest is history! Learn more at sevensistersapostolate.org.

Two years ago, this Apostolate came to Nativity, and now we have Seven Sisters Apostolate prayer teams praying for Fr. Cilinski, Fr Bresnahan, Fr. Bennett and Fr. Wilson every day of the week! We also have a list of substitutes who are willing to offer a Holy Hour when called upon.

We will renew our commitment on Saturday, June 15th. We need a few more women willing to fill openings and be on the substitute list. It is simply just one hour a week, anytime during your day, an hour to spend with our Lord for your priest. The most ideal place to pray your Holy Hour is before the Blessed Sacrament exposed during Eucharistic Adoration, at any Catholic Church, or before the Tabernacle is also fine. Contact Linda Loffredo at lindaloffredo@gmail.com for more info.

#### MASS AND HEALING PRAYER SERVICE

On Tuesday, May 28 at 7:30pm at St. Mark Catholic Church, 9970 Vale Road, Vienna. Fr. John Melmer of St. John the Beloved Church of McLean will celebrate. Confessions will be available. This liturgy comes through the diocesan Catholic Healing Ministry. For more information, contact Grace Sims, 703-981-4620.



# MASS INTENTIONS CALENDAR OPENING July 1 thru December 31, 2024

The Jul-Dec 2024 Mass Intentions
Calendar will open on
Tuesday, May 14 at 9:00am.
We are limiting the requests to
5 intentions per family/household per
calendar year. Visit the parish office
or email akenner@nativityburke.org to
schedule intentions. Please be patient &
courteous as we try to honor all requests.

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



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

#### Monday, May 13th

7:30 am Mother's Day Novena

#### Tuesday, May 14th

7:30 am Mother's Day Novena

12:00 pm Special Int. for John-Paul Galik

#### Wednesday, May 15th

7:30 am † Kathleen Crotty Mooney

3:00 pm Special Int. for Lynn Ray (Burke Healthcare)

#### Thursday, May 16th

7:30 am Mother's Day Novena

12:00 pm † Agnes Lynch

#### Friday, May 17th

7:30 am Mother's Day Novena 9:00 am † Denise Marie Oskvarek

#### Saturday, May 18th

9:00 am Mother's Day Novena 5:00 pm Special Anniversary Intention 7:00 pm Mother's Day Novena

#### Sunday, May 19th

7:00 am † Sam Gensel 9:00 am † Rosann Byrnes 11:00 am † John Anthony Casazza 5:30 pm Parishioners

5.50 pm Farismoners

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

#### 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. Our meetings are on the second Monday of the month at 11:00am in the church "training room". We have gathered for lunches or dinners out, retreats at the Benedictine Monastery, museum tours, etc. Please feel free to join us at our next meeting on May 13th at 11:00am. For further information, please contact Cat Sands at csands@nativityburke.org. May God bless you!

#### **ROSARY MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on May 21st from 1:00pm-3:00pm in the Father Ready Room.

#### ALTAR FLOWERS - Donated by



Walt and Cathy Atchley In Loving Memory of Michael Atchley Thank you to those who have pledged to the Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA). The BLA funds programs and ministries that serve thousands of people across our diocese and here at Nativity. Please help our parish reach our participation goal by contributing any amount that is right for you and your family. You may go online to make a donation at: www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla or just scan the QR code here. Thank you for caring!

#### National Eucharistic Revival 2024 OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDULGENCES

We just got exciting news from the Vatican: several key moments in the National Eucharistic Revival are now opportunities to gain a plenary indulgence! Anyone who participates in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage (at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on June 8th and 9th) or who attends the 10th National Eucharistic Congress (in Indianapolis from July 17 to 21) will be granted this special remittance of temporal punishment associated with confessed sins (under the usual conditions of an indulgence). That means every stop along the nationwide Pilgrimage route and the Congress event itself are now even greater opportunities for grace than they were before! Read the full press release at the USCCB website to find out more about these special indulgences, the Apostolic Blessing that will be imparted at the Congress, and how these graces will flow into the Year of Mission.

If you have not yet registered for either of these incredible milestones in the Revival, now is the time. Go to https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/

A message from Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Catholic Home Solar Workshop in Md, DC, & NoVA

"Praised be You ... with all Your creatures, especially Brother Sun, Who is the day and through whom You give us light..." - Saint Francis of Assisi

In the years since the Holy Father's encyclical Laudato Si', our region's Catholic communities have been responding faithfully in many ways.

This spring, Catholic homeowners have an opportunity to embrace the blessing of what St. Francis called "Brother Sun" – by putting up solar panels at home, together with neighbors. Start the process to join purchasing groups through nonprofit organizations: Solar United Neighbors (bit.ly/

IPLsolarswitch24 in Northern Virginia, DC, and Montgomery, Frederick, and Prince George's counties).

Please join us for an online Catholic Home Solar Workshop on Thursday, May 30 at 7pm to hear a teaching about Pope Francis' call to replace fossil fuels with renewable energy "without delay," a testimonial about how meaningful it is to go solar at home, information from both Solar United Neighbors and Civic Works, and then to ask questions about the process, and to sign up! Register at bit.ly/CatholicHomeSolarWorkshop This event is convened by Catholic Climate Covenant and Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVA) in partnership with several Catholic parishes, including the Nativity Catholic Church Creation Care Ministry. Contact solar@ipldmv.org to learn more.)

# Attention Mease!

# MASS SCHEDULE CHANGES MAY 18 & 19

DUE TO OUR CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE, THE 9:00am MASS ON SATURDAY, MAY 18th HAS BEEN MOVED TO 7:30am

> THE 1:00pm MASS ON SUNDAY, MAY 19th HAS BEEN CANCELLED

# Marian Bible Study Lunch and Learn!

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



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

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

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



# CATECHISTS NEEDED FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR!

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

#### Why Become a Catechist?

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

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

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

#### Your Role a Catechist:

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

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

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









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



### nativityburke.org

-Religious Education





Severe Weather Plan: Mass to be held at Holy Spirit Catholic Church

#### PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC)

We are a social group, mostly aged 60 and over. (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate-membership group.) Meet us for: Square Dancing (May 21, 28); Thursday lunches (May 23); Mass at St. Mary's Basilica and lunch in Alexandria (May 15); theater at Greenspring Retirement Community (May 18); feeding the hungry at Christ House (May 25); dance at Epiphany Byzantine Catholic Church (June 1). For details, visit our website at: bit.ly/ptsc. Questions or to RSVP, email ptscnva@gmail.com. (Prime Time Single Catholics (PTSC) is a non-profit social group)

Struggling with addiction in the family?

Both the afflicted and affected don't need to be alone. There are many resources available including AA, NA, Alanon, Calix and a diocesan chaplain.Call the HELPLINE (970) 989-2670) for support. This is NOT LIMITED to addicts, anybody that would like to speak with a priest or a friend in Christ May call!

Do you need a ride to a medical appointment or to go grocery shopping and are unable to drive? The Shepherd's Center–Fairfax Burke provides these services. Feel free to contact the Shepherd's Center Fairfax Burke at 703–323–4788 for information.

#### Marian Homes needs your support!

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

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

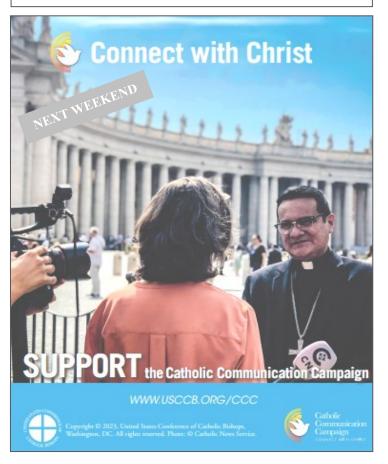
#### Can you help?

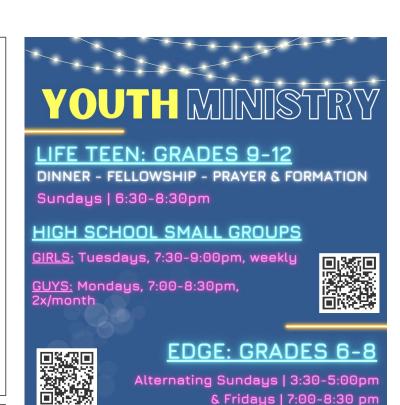
We need hearts and hands. If you would like to volunteer with this organization, please contact Lisa Anthony-Price (marketing@marianhomes.org). To donate to our Capital Campaign, navigate to https://www.marianhomes.org. Thank you for your prayers and care!



#### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl meeting for March will be held on Monday morning, May 20th at 9:30am in the Fr. Ready room. All are welcome!





## VBC/COTE: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

#### MONDAY, JUNE 17 - FRIDAY, JUNE 21

Parents, teens, and parishioners - we need your help with running our beloved summer camp programs! Our volunteer crew always has a blast, and there are a variety of ways to get involved: art, science, Bible stories, music, outdoors, etc. Plus, childcare is provided for volunteers. Register on the website today!

#### See website for full schedule

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







# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION OPENS ON MAY 15TH

For more information and to register please visit the RE page on our parish website: nativityburke.org/re

CLASSES START SEPTEMBER 15TH



#### Session Schedule:

Session 1: Sunday ( 3:45pm-5:00pm) | Session 3: Monday (4:45pm-6:00pm) | Session 2: Sunday (7:00pm-8:15pm) | Session 4: Monday (7:00pm-8:15pm)

Session 5: Tuesday (4:45pm-6:00pm) Session 6: Tuesday (7:00pm-8:15pm) EARLY BIRD TUITION DISCOUNT UNTIL AUGUST 1ST

Volunteer Catechists needed!



For more information and to register please visit our website: nativityburke.org/re or use the QR Code. Questions?

Contact us at 703 455 0372 or Nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org

#### Sick / Homebound Visits

Are you or someone you know sick and/or homebound for any reason? We can arrange home visits from the parish and provide prayer and the sacraments. We would love to bring God's Grace and Peace to anyone in difficult times.

Please contact Cat Sands, Pastoral Minister, at csands@nativityburke.org to schedule a visit.

#### NEED TO TALK?

Catholic Charities provides quality mental health services & counselors grounded in a Catholic understanding of the human person. "Nativity's Counselor" Ms. Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC visits Nativity to counsel clients in-person on Thursdays from 10:00am-6:00pm. She is available to talk with any parishioners who may be struggling.

To set up an appointment, please contact Marguerite at 703-454-2415 or mmturner@ccda.net.



#### NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



# Nativity Students Perform "The Aristocats" - A First-Class Performance!

It was an evening of music – singing, dancing, fun, and friendship. As the talented, multi-aged cast (1st - 8th grades!) guided us through each stellar scene of the play, *The Aristocats*, we learned how to embrace friendship, grow new skills, and live our best lives.







Congratulations to a very talented cast and crew led by gifted Nativity staff members, Delaney Fetzer, Director/ Choreographer, Michele Sidebottom, Crew Director, and Sound Designer, Chris Smith.

Check out our Facebook post at –/nativityschoolburke, where we have additional photos posted.

#### **Upcoming Dates At-A-Glance!**

May 13 - Band Concert, 2:00 pm

May 18 - Confirmation

May 20 - Shakespeare Week

May 20 - Parish Golf Tournament

May 22 - 2nd Grade Field Trip

May 22 - 8th Grade Field Trip

May 22 - 4th Grade Colonial Days

May 23 - 8th Grade Field Trip

May 24 - Last Day of Preschool/Pre-K

May 24 - 12:00 NOON Dismissal PM Schedule

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

Yes, Catholic education is worth the investment!

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.

Contact Mrs. Shannon Murphy, our Registrar, for more information, at (703) 455-2300 and/or smurph@nativityschool.org.

#### Love working with children? Want flexibility? Consider subbing at Nativity School... Please Join Us!



We are in need of substitute teachers with the following minimum qualifications: 2-plus years of college - Ability to follow a lesson plan and give effective instructions in the absence of the teacher - Proficiency in maintaining effective classroom

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





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

Linktree Universal Sign-up Link - Volunteer for an event! Scroll down to view all events. https://linktr.ee/fr\_sikora\_council\_7992.

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

**18 May, Confirmation Celebration Day:** Nativity Knights assisting with prep, assist, of cookies and drink for childrens memorable event. Volunteer on Link Tree.

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

**30 May (Thursday), Field Day BBQ:** Grill Masters wanted. Volunteer on Link Tree.

1 & 2 June. St. Lucy Food Drive: Blue Bags Out. Volunteer on Link Tree.

7 June, School End of Year BBQ.: Volunteer on Link Tree. 8 June. St. Lucy Food Drive Food drop off: You assist unloading/loading food donations. Volunteer on Link Tree.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Yard Sale Clean-up: SUG is coming soon.

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



# ATTENTION ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS



GMU CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY PRESENTS:

# THURSDAY NIGHT GATHERINGS

## THURSDAYS 7-9PM IN JUNE AND JULY

St. Robert Bellarmine Chapel 4515 Roberts Rd Fairfax, VA 22032



COME FOR FOOD, FUN, AND FELLOWSHIP! gmuccm.org

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

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

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

#### The Knights of Columbus - Ladies 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 distribution list.

## **Blessed Carlo Acutis** First Class Relic &

# **EUCHARISTIC** MIRACLES OF THE WORLD

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June 14-16, 2024

View the exhibit: Friday, June 14 Saturday, June 15 Sunday, June 16

2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

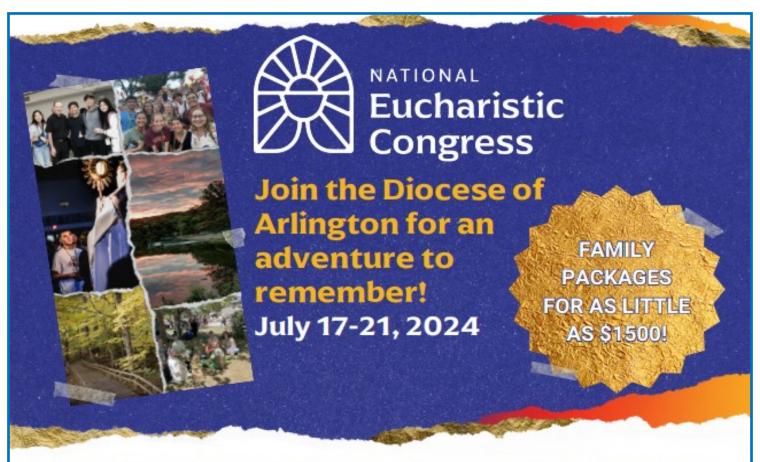




Carlo Acutis started cataloging Eucharistic Miracles around the world when he was just 11 years old and wrote at the time, "The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of Heaven." He then asked his parents to start taking him to all the places of the Eucharistic miracles, and two and half years later the project was completed.

He researched over 136 Eucharistic miracles that occurred over the centuries in different countries around the world, and have been acknowledged by the Church and collected them into a virtual museum. Besides creating a website to house this virtual museum, he helped create presentations that have traveled around the world. Carlo is the youngest contemporary person to be beatified. He used his gifts to share these Eucharistic Miracles with us all!





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

The price per family would depend upon the number of adults going, whether you decide to handle your own transportation, and the ages of your children!

For example, a family of four taking care of their own transportation could participate in this 5 day summertime experience for as little as \$1500!

#### The trip includes:

- a 5 day/4 night faith-filled opportunity for prayer, community, and recreation.
- All-access event pass for the National Eucharistic Congress (a \$299 value)
- Air-conditioned house/cabin accommodations at a beautiful camp where participants can swim, hike, canoe, climb, zip-line, and enjoy many other fun summertime activities
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# Good News INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

#### The Ascension of the Lord

May 12, 2024: Acts 1:1-11 | Ps 47:2-3,6-9 | Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 | Mk 16:15-20

Pray: Holy Spirit, open my heart and enflame me with your love so I can share Jesus' Good News with everyone through my words and deeds. Amen.

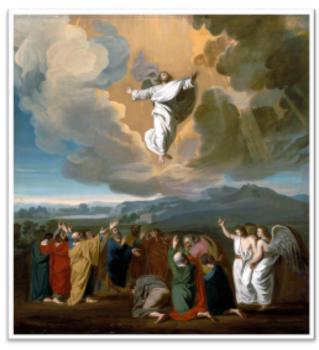
## Called by Christ to Spread Love, Hope, Truth, and Peace.

At the Ascension, Jesus commissioned His disciples to proclaim the Gospel. Our baptismal calling invites us, too, to share the Gospel with everyone. The Gospel's Good News is this: God has a plan for each of us. Sin interferes with God's plan and separates us from Him. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, suffered, died, and rose so we could be forgiven and united to God forever.

Jesus and his teachings of love, mercy, forgiveness, and service to others offer a positive and fruitful way of living in this dark and selfish world and a sure pathway to our home in heaven.

St. Paul calls on all Christians to follow Jesus' example and love one another with humility, gentleness, and patience. Jesus's message of love, truth, forgiveness, peace, hope, and justice is for everyone.

Sacred Scripture repeatedly reveals God's preferential love for the poor, the vulnerable, the oppressed, and the lost. Christ calls His followers to unite with Him through the gifts and guidance of the Holy Spirit to reach the hearts of those who live in poverty. This poverty does not only exist in financial need. Jesus wants us to reach out to those starving for love, thirsting for friendship with God, and struggling for justice and peace.



Jesus is the answer. Our call as Christians is to know and love Christ so much that we reflect Him in our lives, and others will see Him in us. When we love God with our whole hearts, minds, and souls, we will see Christ in others, too, and we will joyfully share our faith and trust in the Lord as we strive in humility to serve those in need of God's mercy and grace.

#### Reflect & Discuss:

- † Who is God calling you to share the Gospel with?
- + How might you get closer to Christ so that your love for Him will continue growing and your passion for sharing the Gospel will increase?
- In what new ways are we being called to spread the Gospel of Christ? What new needs is God asking us to address?
- Who are the poor and poor in spirit whom God wants us to help?

#### APRENDE TU FE

Cuando la Iglesia dice: Sí, sí, no, no

La intransigencia de la Iglesia es una demostración de que se está convencido de

poseer la verdad

Por: Revista Cristiandad | Fuente: cristiandad.org

Es verdad que la Iglesia, durante mucho tiempo, ha sido intransigente, muy intransigente con sus dogmas y principios.

Precisamente esa intransigencia de la Iglesia Católica en sus verdades fundamentales, es una de las causas más poderosas de que yo sea católico. ¿Sabe por qué?



Porque la intransigencia es una demostración, un síntoma, de que se está convencido de poseer la verdad. El que tiene la plena convicción de conocer la verdad, no transige; en cambio, la mentira transige.

Me explico: Vaya a donde está un matemático y dígale: Yo creo que dos y dos son cinco.

Verá como él contesta: No señor, usted está equivocado, son cuatro.

Bueno, dígale, vamos a no decir que son cinco, pero acépteme que son cuatro y una milésima.

Le dirá el matemático: No señor, no son cuatro y una milésima, son cuatro exactos.

¡Pero, por Dios! ¡Transija Ud.! ¡Qué más le da transigir por sólo una milésima, que es algo insignificante!

No transijo ni en una milésima, le contestará el matemático; la verdad es sólo una: que suman cuatro, y no puedo transigir porque con sólo alterar la verdad en una milésima, ya no sería la verdad, se convertiría en una mentira. La verdad no se puede alterar en lo más mínimo.

Fíjese: era intransigente, porque estaba convencido de que tenía la verdad; y no podía alterar ésta, porque se hacía mentira.

Todas las ciencias exactas y verídicas son intransigentes: las matemáticas, el álgebra, la física, la química, etc.

Por eso la Iglesia es intransigente en sus Dogmas, porque está convencida de que son los principios verdaderos, los dados por Dios, y no los puede variar ni una milésima porque se harían mentira.

En cambio, fijese cómo la mentira puede transigir.

Diga que dos y dos son cinco; he ahí una gran mentira.

Diga que son veinte; la mentira sigue tan campante.

Diga que son cincuenta millones; la mentira se echa fresco.

¿Por qué sucede esto? Porque lo único verdadero es que son cuatro y todo lo otro que se diga es mentira, y mientras más te apartes de cuatro, más grande es la mentira; es como un agujero, que mientras más le quitan, más grande se hace. ¿Ve cómo puedes transigir con una mentira y ésta no se altera en lo más mínimo?

Vaya a las Iglesias Protestantes, todas ellas le dirán que son muy intransigentes con sus Dogmas. Conclusión: sáquela Ud. mismo.

Fíjese que le he dicho a través de todo este artículo que la intransigencia de la Iglesia es con sus Dogmas, no con los hombres, la Iglesia no es intransigente con los hombres; Jesucristo combatía intansigentemente el pecado, pero perdonaba a todos los pecadores que se arrepentían.

Por último, quiero que oigas las palabras siguientes de labios del propio Jesús, eterna Verdad: "El que no está conmigo, está contra Mí".

Jesús no admitía posiciones intermedias, pequeñas discrepancias, o todo, o nada, Jesucristo... Jesucristo era intransigente.

#### Solemnidad de la Ascensón del Señor, Ciclo B. La Ascensión del Señor

Autor: P. Raniero Cantalamessa, ofmcap Hechos 1,1-11; Efesios 1,17-23; Marcos 16,15-20

La solemnidad de la Ascensión de Jesús «al cielo» es una ocasión para que nos aclaremos de una vez por todas las ideas sobre qué entendemos por «cielo». En casi todos los pueblos, el cielo se identifica con la morada de la divinidad. También la Biblia utiliza este lenguaje espacial. «Gloria a Dios en lo alto del cielo y paz en la tierra a los hombres». Con la llegada de la era científica, este significado religioso de la palabra «cielo» entró en crisis. Para el hombre moderno el cielo es el espacio en el que se mueve nuestro planeta y todo el sistema solar, y nada más. Conocemos la salida atribuida a un astronauta soviético, de vuelta de su viaje por el cosmos: «¡He recorrido mucho el espacio y no he encontrado por ninguna parte a Dios!».

Así que es importante que intentemos aclarar qué entendemos nosotros, los cristianos, cuando decimos «Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos», o cuando decimos de alguien que «se ha ido al cielo». La Biblia se adapta, en estos casos, al modo de hablar popular; pero ella bien sabe y enseña que Dios «está en el cielo, en la tierra y en todo lugar», que es Él quien «ha creado los cielos», y si los ha creado no puede estar «encerrado» en ellos. Que Dios esté «en los cielos» significa que «vive en una luz inaccesible»; que dista de nosotros «cuanto el cielo se eleva sobre la tierra». En otras palabras, que es infinitamente diferente de nosotros. El cielo, en sentido religioso, es más un estado que un lugar. Dios está fuera del espacio y del tiempo y así es su paraíso.

A la luz de lo que hemos dicho, ¿qué significa proclamar que Jesús «subió al cielo»? La respuesta la encontramos en el Credo: «Subió al cielo, y está sentado a la derecha del Padre». Que Cristo haya subido al cielo significa que «está sentado a la derecha del Padre, esto es, que también como hombre ha entrado en el mundo de Dios; que ha sido constituido, como dice San Pablo en la segunda lectura, Señor y cabeza de todas las cosas. Jesús subió al cielo, pero sin dejar la tierra. Sólo ha salido de nuestro campo visual. Él mismo nos asegura: «He aquí que yo estoy con vosotros todos los días hasta el fin del mundo» (Mateo 28, 16-20. Ndt).

Las palabras del ángel --«Galileos, ¿qué hacéis mirando al cielo?»-- contienen por lo tanto una advertencia, si no un velado reproche: no hay que quedarse mirando arriba, al cielo, como para descubrir dónde va a estar Cristo, sino más bien vivir en espera de su retorno, proseguir su misión, llevar su Evangelio hasta los confines de la tierra, mejorar la calidad de la vida en la tierra.

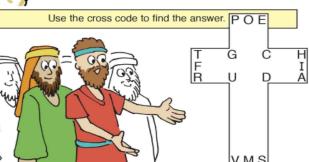
Cuando se trata de nosotros, «irse al cielo» o «al paraíso» significa ir a estar «con Cristo» (Flp 1,23). «Voy a prepararos un lugar... para que donde esté yo estéis también vosotros» (Jn 14,2-3). El «cielo», entendido como lugar de descanso, de la recompensa eterna de los buenos, se forma en el momento en que Cristo resucita y sube al cielo. Nuestro verdadero cielo es Cristo resucitado, con quien iremos a reunirnos y a hacer «cuerpo» después de nuestra resurrección, y de manera provisional e imperfecta inmediatamente tras la muerte. Por lo tanto Jesús no ascendió a un cielo ya existente que le esperaba, sino que fue a formar e inaugurar el cielo para nosotros.

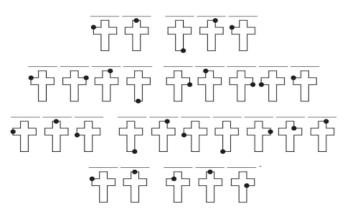
Hay quien se pregunta: ¿pero qué haremos «en el cielo» con Cristo toda la eternidad? ¿No nos aburriremos? Respondo: ¿aburre tal vez estar bien y con óptima salud? Preguntad a los enamorados si se aburren de estar juntos. Cuando sucede que se vive un momento de intensísima y pura alegría, ¿no nace a lo mejor en nosotros el deseo de que dure para siempre, de que no acabe jamás? Aquí abajo tales estados no duran para siempre, porque no existe objeto que pueda satisfacer indefinidamente. Con Dios es diferente. Nuestra mente hallará en Él la Verdad y la Belleza que nunca acabará de contemplar, y nuestro corazón el Bien del que jamás se cansará de gozar.

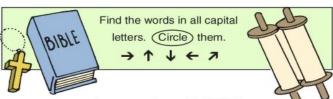
[Traducción del italiano y adaptación: Zenit.org]



Jesus prayed to God to "sanctify"
His disciples.
What does that mean?







Jesus continued to PRAY:

"ALL I have is YOURS, and all You have is MINE.
And GLORY has come to Me through them. I will
REMAIN in the WORLD no longer. ... While I was with
them, I ... KEPT them SAFE by that NAME You gave
Me. ... I say these things ... so that they may have ...
My JOY in them."

В	С	W	О	R	L	D	Α	L	L	G
E	V	Е	R	Υ	Т	Н	1	Ν	G	L
L	D	R	О	W	В	Т	R	Υ	Т	О
1	0	Ν	Е	Т	С	R	J	0	Υ	R
E	Ν	Α	М	Е	Α	U	Ν	U	V	Υ
V	О	Ν	Т	D	S	Т	Q	R	Р	Р
E	Р	0	W	Е	R	Н	Ν	S	R	S
D	R	Е	М	Α	1	Ν	С	Т	Α	Α
Р	В	S	Α	Ν	C	Т	1	F	Υ	F
Α	С	С	Е	Р	Т	Е	D	Ν	V	Е
М	1	Ν	Ε	K	Е	Р	Т	Ν	0	W

How many other words from John 17 can you find in the word search?



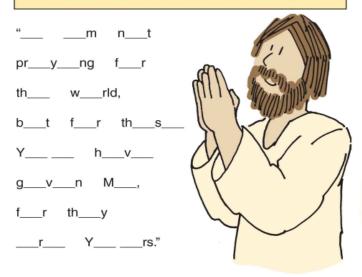
Ages 7+

May 12, 2024 • John 17:6-19

# Jesus Prays for His Disciples

Jesus prayed to God for His disciples. What did He say?

Fit the vowels into the words in the order given.
I a o a i o e o u o o e o u a e i e e o e a e o u



Jesus asked God to do something for His disciples. Solve the puzzle to learn what He asked.



Answer each statement, True or False.

Circle the letter in the <u>correct</u> answer column.

Write each circled letter on the numbered lines below.

		í.
	True	False
Jesus appeared to His disciples after His resurrection.	Е	М
2. John the Baptist came before Jesus.	Т	Е
<ol><li>Jesus took the disciples to pray in Central Park.</li></ol>	С	0
<ol><li>Some of Jesus' disciples had been fishermen before.</li></ol>	R	Α
<ol><li>Jesus prepared His disciples to go into the world to gather people to God.</li></ol>	С	L
6. Jesus had 12 chosen disciples.	Р	В
7. The disciple who betrayed Jesus was named Abraham.	S	Т



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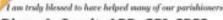
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