

6TH SUNDAY of Easter



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

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

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

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

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

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



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

SUNDAY MASSES: 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass in Spanish
7:00 a.m./9:00 a.m./11:00 a.m./
1:00 p.m./5:30 p.m.
Monthly Sensory Mass on the
second Sunday of every month
at the 1:00pm 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**

A Message from our Pastor Msgr. Bob Cilinski



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

My dear parishioners,

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

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

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

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

Love and Blessings,

Bob Cilinski
Msgr. Bob Cilinski
Pastor

In Observance of Memorial Day, the Parish Office
will be closed all day on Monday, May 26th.
Morning Mass will be at 9:00am

**Deacon Christian Nojdzela will be ordained a priest
on Saturday, June 7, 2025 at 11:00 am
at the Cathedral of St Thomas More**

Fr. Christian Nojdzela will celebrate a First Mass at Nativity on Sunday, June 15 at 11:00am. A reception will follow in the Fr. Martin Center where Father will give his first priestly blessing. A basket will be placed at the reception for cards and monetary gifts in support of Fr. Christian as he begins his priestly ministry. All are invited!

2025 BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL ABOUNDING IN HOPE!

Thank you and congratulations Nativity parishioners for your outstanding support of our 2025 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA).

As of May 15, our pledges and one-time donations total \$790,731. That exceeds our parish dollar goal of \$770,000, with 17% of all Nativity registered households participating.

Your support for BLA 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

www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA
or scan the QR code

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, teethingers, 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.

Fall Festival 2026 Kick-off Meeting - May 28 at 7:00pm Room 203 - Nativity School

The Nativity Fall Festival committee is hosting a kick off meeting to start planning for this year's festival. We are in need of additional committee members to contribute to the success of the event.

If you are interested and would like to learn more, please come to the meeting! Email Steve & TusaRebecca Pannucci at fallfestival@nativityburke.org for more information.



**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!



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



**PLEASE
DONATE**

--- SATURDAY, JUNE 7th | 9AM-1PM ---

Nativity Parish Parking Lot

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

FOOD ITEMS MOST NEEDED

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

Please no glass containers

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

GIFT CARDS AND MONETARY GIFTS ALSO ACCEPTED

Checks can be made out to "CCDA" with "The St. Lucy Project" in the memo

**Nativity is a tithing community
Giving back a portion of God's blessings in gratitude**



My dear parishioners,

Recently, new clergy assignments were announced in the Diocese of Arlington. Fr. Ed Bresnahan has been named pastor of St. Leo Catholic Church in Fairfax. He is ready to assume this new responsibility, and we are happy for his promotion. At the same time, we will miss him greatly. He has generously served us with joy, enthusiasm, and love.

Nativity will now again be blessed with a newly ordained priest, soon-to-be Fr. Jordan Evans. He is young, and also has lots of joy for the gospel and will bring his gifts and new energy to Nativity. He will be ordained with Deacon Christian on June 7.

This summer, a new transitional deacon will also join us at Nativity. Deacon Sean Mazary will finish his last year of formation at Mount St. Mary's Seminary and be ordained a priest next June 2026. The new assignments begin June 26. I'm glad we have another month together with Fr. Bresnahan. Please join me in congratulating him! A Farewell Mass and reception are being planned in his honor. We have lots to celebrate!

Let us lift our prayers for Fr. Bresnahan, soon-to-be Fr. Evans, soon-to-be Fr. Christian, Deacon Sean, and each priest beginning new assignments this year.

Love and blessings,
Mgr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

Morning of Recollection for Parents and Grandparents Who Have Lost Children

Are you suffering after the loss of a child? Please join us for a Morning of Reflection for Parents and Grandparents who have lost children and grandchildren.

The gathering will be held at St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church on Saturday, May 31st beginning with a 9:15am parish Mass. It will feature talks by Deacon Dave Maurer of St. Mary of Sorrows in Fairfax and Betsy Leon, national speaker and author. There will be time for sharing with others.

Coffee and pastries will be provided. The event is free but to register and learn more visit: arlingtondiocese.org/parentsmass. For questions call the Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life at 703-841-2550.



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.



Religious Education Class Registration

Opens June 1st

Session Schedule

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

Scan QR-Code to register



Early tuition discount ends on August 1st!

We Need Volunteers!

Available Opportunities:

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

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

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

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



Get in Touch

703-455-0372

nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org

nativityburke.org/re/



A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

"Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience" (Laudato Si', 217).

Laudato Si', Pope Francis's encyclical on climate change and ecology, celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2025. May 25-31 is Laudato Si week. Consider taking a walk in creation to discern what God is asking of you in terms of caring for his creation. Could you volunteer for an environmental organization, reduce and manage waste more effectively, eat more plant-based meals, conserve energy, pray for those impacted by environmental degradation worldwide?

Have you experienced the *"ecological conversion"* that Pope Francis called us to?

A Prayer for Vulnerable People: Creator God, we give thanks for the poor. We give thanks for resilience and strength. We give thanks for the opportunity to know the poor, to serve them, and to love them.

As our harm to creation harms all who share it, help us grow in solidarity. Help us follow the words of Proverbs, to *"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute."*

Help us speak truth in the presence of corruption, selfishness, and short-sightedness. Help us speak prophetically to our brothers and sisters, and to reflect on Your truths in our own lives, that we may change our habits to truly care for all Your beloved children. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(Laudato Si Movement)

Pro-Life Corner:

New Pro-Life Scholarships for High School & College/Trade School Students

The Knights of Columbus will award eight George Getek Memorial Pro-Life Scholarships to High School and College/Trade School students. The purpose of this initiative is to further build up the culture of life at Nativity from the *"ground-up."*

Application submissions are due no later than midnight, Saturday, May 31, 2025. Check it out at:

<https://nativityburke.org/getek-memorial-scholarship/>

Abortion Pill Dangers Exposed – As reported by Kristan Hawkins, President, Students for Life Action, a new report on Chemical Abortion Pills just made the stakes in our fight to DEFUND PLANNED PARENTHOOD a lot higher!

You see, a newly released study conducted by the Ethics and Public Policy Center found that:

! More than 1 in 10 women experience sepsis, infection, hemorrhaging, or another serious adverse event within 45 days of taking Chemical Abortion Pills;

! The real-world rate of serious adverse events following Chemical Abortion Pills is at least 22 times higher than the original summary figure of "less than 0.5 percent" in clinical trials reported on the drug label; and

! The 10 "clinical trials" referenced by the drug manufacturer and the FDA – accounting for a total of 30,966 participants, less than 0.5 percent of whom reportedly experienced serious adverse reactions – were provided by Planned Parenthood!

Despite what the Abortion Lobby tells us, these deadly pills – which were created to kill human beings – aren't at all safe for human beings. PLUS, since most of these abortions take place in toilets – and since wastewater plants don't treat for traces of Chemical Abortion Pills – our national water supply is being poisoned! If pro-lifers like you and me ever hope to abolish abortion in America, we MUST strip the largest provider of Chemical Abortion Pills – Planned Parenthood – of their taxpayer funding.

As David Bereit indicated in his nationwide pro-life webcast, *Abortion Pill Dangers Exposed*, "discover breaking new evidence about the abortion pill's serious dangers to women – and learn how YOU can help stop this crisis before more women suffer irreversible harm:

1. Watch the replay and fully understand the crisis and opportunities.
2. Take life-saving action at www.StopHarmingWomen.org – contact lawmakers, HHS, and the FDA to demand critical safety protections and removal of these dangerous pills.
3. Share this replay with friends, family, and your community... so they can be educated... lives are hanging in the balance, and your voice matters more than ever."

HHS Secretary Robert Kennedy Will Investigate Dangerous Abortion Pill

HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. said Wednesday that he has ordered a top-down review of the abortion drug mifepristone in light of "alarming" research showing the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved pill does far more harm to women than previously reported. The latest research is "alarming," Kennedy said during a hearing before the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. www.lifenews.com/2025/05/15/hhs-secretary-robert-kennedy-will-investigate-dangerous-abortion-pill



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/>

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!

ECHO Collection nest weekend Food Room Most Needed Items

ECHO's Food Room continues to break records. May 3/4 we collected 750 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.



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.

They Keep Us Free

by Roger Robicheau

In time of need their will is sure
American, their freedom pure

Protect our life and liberty
Unselfishly, they keep us free

Each soldier knows what is at stake
The risk is grave, there's no mistake

With pride they serve our country strong
They face each foe to come along

Remember them while in your home
Or where you choose to freely roam

Don't take for granted what you see
Some left this life, so it could be

To God I urge you all to pray
For soldier's brave, to face each day

We should be thankful, one and all
For those who march to meet each call



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The Car Ministry accepts vehicles, reconditions them and then provides them as a gift to low-income families referred by pastors and social agencies. Click on the "Donate your Car" link on the Car Ministry's website, www.carministry.org, or contact the charity's Director, Larry Gordon at 703.237.8479 for more info.

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

Come join the Nativity Dames!

We are the wives, sisters, daughters, mothers of the men in the Knights of Columbus. Our purpose is to support and assist our Fr. Vincent Sikora council. Our fellowship and information meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of the month, at 7:30 pm, in the Fr. Ready room. The next meeting is August 3. For more info, please contact RoseAnne Zivich at brzivich@aim.com.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AS VOLUNTEER DOCENT AT THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Are you looking for an opportunity to grow in your own faith and extend that gift to others through your personal witness and service to the Church? We invite you to become a Docent (Tour Guide)/Receptionist at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Hours and days are flexible, with an expectation of just a minimum of two 3-hour shifts per month. Our greatest need is for weekday mornings or afternoons. Training will be provided. Anyone interested should please contact Dee Steel, Director of Visitor Services, via phone at the Basilica at (202) 281-0611 or email dsteel@bnsic.org.

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



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





NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



Honoring Mary – Hail, Holy Queen



In one of our most beautiful traditions, our second and eighth graders recently guided us through a very special devotion honoring Mary -- **our May Crowning**.

Our second graders, who had just received First Holy Communion, and our eighth graders, who had recently received the Sacrament of Confirmation, pooled their talents to help us honor our Mother with a prayer service (including leading the church in a decade of the Rosary) and then in reverently placing a crown of flowers atop Mary's head.



A Special Note of Thanks!

Thank you for making our school even warmer, even more beautiful (and definitely tastier!), every day of the school year.

We are so happy you are here with us! During Teacher Appreciation Week, you outdid yourselves. And we are so grateful -- for the hugs, the sweet notes, the lunches, treats, gifts, the cards, and so much more. We are on this journey together and really enjoy partnering with you.



Important Upcoming Dates ~

Monday, May 26 – Memorial Day - No School
 Tuesday, May 27 – ALL Nativity Library Books Due
 Tuesday, May 27 – Principal/Teacher of the Day
 Wednesday, May 28 – 7th & 8th Field Day 9-11 am
 Wednesday, May 28 – 8th Grade End of Year Party
 Thursday, May 29 – Field Day for ALL Grades!
 Friday, May 30 – 8th Grade Field Trip
 Friday, May 30 – Grades Due 8th Grade Only
 Saturday, May 31 – Algebra & Geometry Exams

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.



**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

Nativity School Field Day: Thursday, May 29. Join the grill crew! SUG is on linktree.

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 on linktree.

St. Lucy Food Drive: Saturday, June 7, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. We need six able-bodied volunteers (three per two-hour shift) to lend a hand. See SUG on LinkTree. We will hand out blue bags after every Mass during the May31-June 1 weekend. Please consider joining us to help.

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.

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.

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

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.) Come on out with us to: dinner in Occoquan (June 1); Outdoor Stations at Nativity Church (June 4); Spring Dance at Epiphany Church (June 7); Thursday lunches (June 12 & 26); square dancing (Tuesdays); Father's Day breakfast at Arlington K of C (June 15); musical play (June 15); walk at Claude Moore Park (June 18); Annual Picnic (June 22); serving meal at Christ House (June 28).

For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.

Como Jesús, con nadie

VI Pascua ©

Javier Leoz

El Señor nos acompaña. Y, en medio de nosotros, cuando era consciente de su muerte y, ahora en vísperas de su Ascensión, nos dice que guardemos su Palabra. Que, en ella –todo un patrimonio espiritual, personal y divino de Jesús - encontraremos fuerza para seguir adelante, respuestas ante muchos interrogantes. Amar al Señor y, guardar sus pensamientos, su esquema para nuestro mundo y para nosotros, es todo uno.

1. Las estadísticas dicen que, una generación de jóvenes en Europa, está perdida. Algo grave está ocurriendo en nuestro mundo cuando se nos prepara para la felicidad y, a la vuelta de la esquina, nos encontramos en la soledad o con una ansiedad insoportable. Algo está aconteciendo en nuestra sociedad cuando, detrás de muchas palabras y de otros tantos escaparates, se nos invita a amarnos a nosotros mismos y, luego necesitamos del amor auténtico, de una ayuda para levantarnos, de un aliento o de una sonrisa... resulta que nos encontramos solos. Falla, en el fondo y en la forma, aquello que es o no es digno de ser amado.

2. Dios, que disfruta amando, goza con nuestro amor. Y Jesús, el amor hecho carne en medio de nosotros, nos da una pista para ser felices. Para no sentirnos defraudados, inquietos o desilusionados de nuestra existencia: hay que esperar en Dios, hay que amar a Dios y no hay que perder de vista lo que El nos enseñó. ¿Amas a Dios? ¿Cómo tratas su Palabra? ¿Condiciona, alumbraba, ilumina, interpela en algo tu existencia?

Hemos perdido, en varios aspectos, el norte y –Jesús- nos recuerda que, sus Palabras, siempre serán causa de serenidad y de encuentro con nosotros mismos, con los demás y con el mismo Dios. ¿Por qué nos cuesta tanto guardar, proteger, acoger y enseñar su Palabra? Tal vez porque, entre otras cosas, es exigente, nítida, a veces duele y otras calma. Su Palabra, de vez en cuando, deja a la intemperie nuestras vergüenzas y otras nos dice que somos dichosos, bienaventurados y elegidos. Pero, no lo olvidemos, su Palabra es eterna.

Estamos en horas muy decisivas para la Iglesia y para el anuncio del evangelio. Nunca como hoy se necesitan corazones vigorosos (no cobardes), labios dispuestos



a dar testimonio de Jesús (no amordazados por la sordina del todo da igual), personas dispuestas a brindarse generosamente a los demás como sello e identidad de que son amigos de Jesús y de que pertenecemos a una comunidad de hermanos. Y, por encima de todo, la promesa de Jesús: el nos acompañará, nos consolará con el Espíritu y nos guiará, como miembros de su Iglesia, hacia la meta final. Que Dios nos siga animando e inundando con la alegría de esta Pascua. Porque, estar y permanecer al lado de Jesús, es garantía segura. Con El..todo.

QUIERO ESTAR CONTIGO, SEÑOR

Cerca para no perderte, y no perdiéndome de Ti, no olvidar a los que, día a día, me rodean.

Que tu Palabra, Señor, sea la que me empuje a no olvidarte, y no olvidándote,

dar razón de tu presencia aquí y ahora

QUIERO ESTAR CONTIGO, SEÑOR

Y, a pesar del vacío que existe en el mundo intentar llenarlo con mi débil esfuerzo

con mis frágiles palabras

con mi alegría fruto de mi encuentro contigo.

Ayúdame, Señor, a guardar tu Palabra

A llevarla cosida a mis pensamientos

A practicarla en las pequeñas obras de cada día

A demostrarme a mí mismo

que, cumpliendo tus deseos

y guardando tus promesas,

es como podré alcanzar la Vida Eterna.

QUIERO ESTAR CONTIGO, SEÑOR

En las horas de luz, cuando a las claras te veo

y en las noches oscuras, al sentir que te pierdo

En las pruebas amargas, cuando eres mi bálsamo

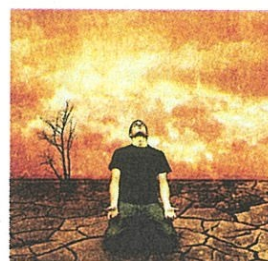
Y en los instantes de soledad cuando avanzo sólo

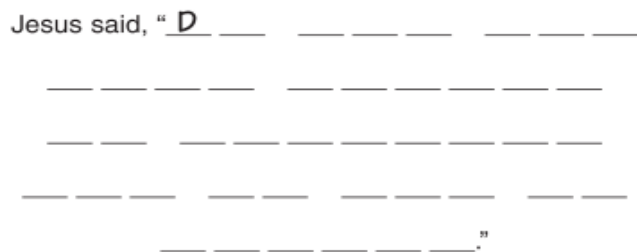
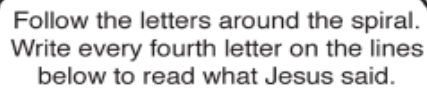
Aquí me tienes, Señor, torpe y débil

pero recordando que, cumplir y amar tu Palabra, es la mejor autopista para llegarme hasta el cielo

Amén.

Javier Leoz





Jesus told the disciples that someone would be with them, in His name, when He was away from them.
Who would that be?

Work the puzzles below, adding and subtracting letters, to find who Jesus was talking about.



May 25, 2025 • John 14:23-29

Jesus was talking to His disciples about going away from them to be with His Father. What did He say?

Add or subtract from the letter given to find the correct letter to write in the spaces. Example: $A + 16 = Q$

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

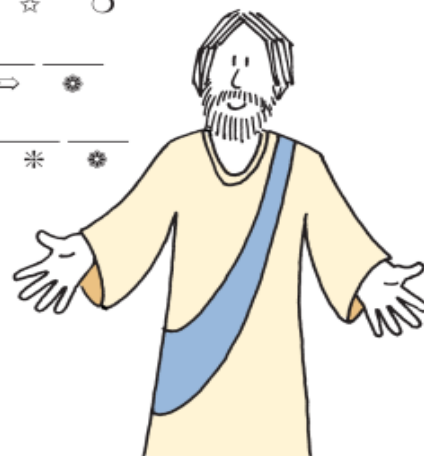
D-3	H+6	W+2	R-3	T-6	A+4	U+2	E+3	J+5
T-8	G+8	Z-4	D+1	O+4		R-5	C+2	
			P+7	P-7	I+3	P-4		
		T-5	A+1	R-13	M+12			
			S-6	Z-1				
N+6	H-3	G-6	A+2	K-3	D+5	S-5	B+5	

Use the code to find what Jesus said.

♥ = A ♁ = E ☆ = I ☆ = M 🍷 = Q ▲ = U ○ = Y
 + = B ◻ = F ✈ = J ✖ = N I = R ✱ = V ✱ = Z
 ⇐ = C ✂ = G ✓ = K + = O ♦ = S ♠ = W
 ⊗ = D ■ = H X = L 🌑 = P ✨ = T ● = X

Jesus said,

66



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