




Nativity
 CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Burke, Virginia

1973 2023

Celebrating 50 Years!

"We are God's people" - 1 Peter 2:10

**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

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

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/College Ministry
 Rebecca Judge, Director of Youth Ministry
 Mary Castellano, Director of Social Media
 Jennifer Sturgeon, Director of Marriage
 Enrichment/Ecumenical Ministry
 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./
 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/](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

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

**MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS
 EDUCATION PROGRAM:**

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

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 772-4751

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

15th
Sunday
in
Ordinary
Time

15^o
Domingo
del
Tiempo
Ordinario

A Message from our Pastor Fr. Bob Cilinski



"A sower went out to sow some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit" - Matt 13:3-5

My dear parishioners,

The sower in the parable that Jesus told was a wild farmer. Instead of plowing fertile ground and responsibly planting it like a normal farmer, he wanders down an unlikely path and throws seed everywhere in the most random way imaginable. Fistfuls of seed land on the path, and rocks, and thorns. Only by some chance does the seed end up on some rich soil that produces a yield.

Surprisingly Jesus doesn't say "Don't be like this careless farmer." Instead Jesus compares himself to the sower! It is His will that the gospel be shared not just in Cathedrals but in prisons and rehab centers, in hospitals, the marketplace and in back alleys. What unlikely places have you taken this good news?

Love and Summer blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski

Fr. Bob Cilinski
Pastor

The First Reading, Isaiah 55: 10-11

My word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.

Lord of the fertile land,
tend our souls.
Render them
fruitful.

Please
send us out
to plant your Word
within the whole world.

The Second Reading, Romans 8:18-23

For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God.

All
creation
doth groan,
laboring within itself,
eagerly looking for the growth
you will give it through your Spirit.

Oh let us see all the way into the
soul of this troubled world,
so as to be your help
in saving it.

By Anne Osdieck

Nativity Religious Education Program

**Early Bird Tuition
Discount Ends
July 31st**



To register please
visit our website:

nativityburke.org/re/
or scan QR-Code



Thank you and congratulations Nativity parishioners for your outstanding support of our 2023 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA). Now that the campaign has wound down, our pledges and one-time donations total \$750,863 with so many more of our Nativity families contributing. That's the most of just about all parishes in the Diocese! 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.



My name is Fr. Jonathan Bennett. I grew up in Rockville, Maryland, and I have two older brothers and a younger sister. I graduated High School from the Heights School in Potomac, Maryland. I made my way across the river to Arlington Virginia through my last profession as a pipe fitter for a fire protection company, and my home parish is St. Agnes in Arlington.

I entered College Seminary at the Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, and finished my academic formation to the priesthood this past Spring at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Before I understood God's call for me to enter Seminary, I always felt a strong desire to help people, especially through service. This desire turned to action, when I began to serve the community as an EMT at my local fire department while I was living in Maryland. Service in the fire department meant caring for the needs of the body, but God was calling me to care for the needs of souls. I was overjoyed to realize this role our Lord was calling me to when I was ordained to the Priesthood this past June.

I look forward to getting to know all of you and meeting your needs!

NATIVITY PLAYERS'
THE LIGHTNING THIEF



THE
PERCY JACKSON
MUSICAL

July 14 & 21 @ 7:30pm
July 15 & 22 @ 2pm & 7:30pm

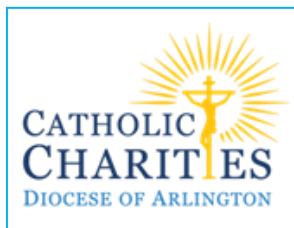
**Tickets
go on sale
June 12th!**

NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH
6398 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA 22015



For info and tickets visit:
nativityplayersburke.org

BOOK BY JOE TRACZ - MUSIC & LYRICS BY ROB ROKICKI - ADAPTED FROM THE BOOK THE LIGHTNING THIEF BY RICK RIORDAN
PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS (CONCORDTHEATRICALS.COM)



**St. Lucy Summer Food Drive:
Saturday, July 29th from 9:00AM-1:00PM**

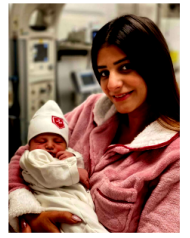
The St. Lucy Summer Food Drive will take place from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday, July 29 to support Catholic Charities in its continuing fight against hunger in the Diocese.

The St. Lucy truck will be parked at the rear of the church parking lot nearest Old Keene Mill Road (like in the February drive). 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, including grocery gift cards (Giant, Safeway, etc.); any donation is welcome! Please make 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 follow this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D49ADAE29A6FE3-stlucy1>. If you have questions, please email the St. Lucy Team at nativity.stlucyteam@gmail.com. Thank you and God bless you!



HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL
of Bethlehem Foundation



Thank you. Your generosity at Nativity Catholic Church helped raise \$3,821.16 last Advent through our Angel Tree Program. Your kindness allowed us to deliver life, peace, and hope in the Holy Land welcoming 4,604 babies in 2022 and serving a catchment area of 1 million people in Bethlehem. **This year we welcomed our 100,000th baby at Holy Family Hospital because of you.** Your kind gifts enable the Hospital to deliver lifesaving medical care to the most vulnerable and at-risk families in Bethlehem. We are profoundly grateful for your support and prayers for our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land.

To hear more Good News, please visit us at birthplaceofhope.org.



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



**PLEASE
DONATE**

--- SATURDAY, JULY 29 | 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

Weekend Drive - July 15th – 16th

We are collecting after ALL masses!

Newborn Kits for Haiti

Stella Marina (An Operation Starfish Project)™ is requesting donations for our newborn kits – which will be used with our clean delivery birthing kits in Haiti.

..... *We need new or gently used*

- **Onesies**
- **Pack n' plays**
- **Full size washcloths**
- **Receiving blankets**
- **Vinyl tablecloths with felt backing**
- **Order from our Amazon Wishlist:**
<https://amz.run/5iIT>

Look for our Stella Marina sign and table in the Narthex. An in-person kit build will be organized in September.



Thank You For Supporting Us!

Please contact Tara Shimp for more information at tarashimp@gmail.com.

Stella Marina



An Operation Starfish Project

What is Stella Marina?

Stella Marina is a project that operates under Operation Starfish®. Stella Marina - which means sea star in Latin - was created to help the midwives in Cap-Haitien, Haiti. There are nearly 19,000 midwife assisted deliveries a year in CH and Stella Marina's goal is to make 20,000 birthing kits a year.



stellamarina.org | Making A Difference One Baby at a Time

SAVE THE DATE

NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

FALL FESTIVAL

09.30.2023

FOOD FAMILY FUN GAMES

PLANNING COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!
FALLFESTIVAL@NATIVITYBURKE.ORG

The Music Ministry is looking for a Pianist. Candidates should be proficient in piano skills, reading music and be able to accompany choirs or singers. Please reply to cfischl@Nativityburke.org if interested!

Nativity Catholic Church

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

REGISTER ONLINE NOW

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

Monday, July 17th
 7:30 am † Red Walther

Tuesday, July 18th
 7:30 am † Felix Basurto
 12:00 pm † Martha Burneo

Wednesday, July 19th
 7:30 am † Sam Gensel
 3:00 pm Parishioners

Thursday, July 20th
 7:30 am † Juanito Licud
 12:00 pm † Andrea Oliveri

Friday, July 21st
 7:30 am † Henrietta T. Critelli

Saturday, July 22nd
 9:00 am † Raymond Paul Bosworth
 5:00 pm † Raymond Howard Zingler
 7:00 pm † Jorge Rivera

Sunday, July 23rd
 7:00 am † Louis Amico
 9:00 am † Jose Peralta-Limas
 11:00 am † Glenn Denk
 1:00 pm † Robert DeVito
 5:30 pm † Bernardo Segura

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

ALTAR FLOWERS Donated by

Mr. Francis Critelli
 In Loving Memory of
 Henrietta T. Critelli

Gifts for Seminarian Education Endowment Fund (SEEF)
 Please support our seminarians and SEEF, a permanent endowment fund established in 2011. SEEF's income provides funding for annual seminarian expenses such as room, board, tuition, health insurance and books, which total almost \$45,000 per seminarian. Please give generously! To donate, make checks payable to: **"Foundation for the CDA - SEEF."**
 Mail to: The Foundation, 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203. Contact John French at john.french@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-3819 with any questions. Thank you!



WOMEN OF NATIVITY BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION

THE WOMEN OF NATIVITY WILL ONCE AGAIN BE COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES AFTER ALL MASSES DURING THE WEEKEND OF AUGUST 5-6. THESE SUPPLIES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES (MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES) ECHO, HISPANIC OUTREACH AND LORTON COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER.

NEEDED ITEMS INCLUDE: BACKPACKS, LOOSE-LEAF PAPER, 3-RING BINDERS, SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS (SINGLE AND MULTIPLE SUBJECT), PENS, #2 PENCILS, PENCIL CASES, FISKAR SCISSORS, LARGE GLUE STICKS, THIN CRAYOLA MARKERS, AND 12" RULERS. SUPPLIES WILL ONLY BE COLLECTED ON THE SCHEDULED DATES DUE TO DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION IN THIS MATTER.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL SHELIA DI FORTI AT 858-204-0080 OR DEBBIE MAYER AT 703-440-8212. THANKS YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS.



Council Meetings: The next council meeting is Tuesday 18 July. Typically, meetings are on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. The first meeting is a business meeting, and the second meeting of the month is devoted to faith formation including video/discussion series and guest speakers. Rosary at 7:15 PM; meeting follows at 7:30 PM. Fellowship follows every meeting. Meetings are in the Nativity school cafeteria.

Linktree Universal Sign-up Link: Want to volunteer for an event? https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992

Council Members & spouses 2022 – 2023 End of Year Dinner: Postponed until further notice

Mowing: A deceased Knight's family needs your help taking care of the lawn this summer. Sign up on linktree.

Food for Others: We need volunteer drivers for food distributions to the poor. If you have a truck or van and can occasionally help deliver to Springfield on Friday evenings contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com.

Name Tags: Email Vince Augelli at VaKC23@gmail.com.

Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies: We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. Volunteer on the linktree.

Handy Knights Ministry: If you are unable to perform basic maintenance tasks or small repairs in your home due to health or other factors, call the "Handy Knights." You can reach us at handyknightsofnativity@gmail.com.

The Fraternal Committee: Brothers helping brothers in need of assistance: Brothers and the families of living and deceased brothers in need of a helping hand, contact Br. John Landy at navyy8@yahoo.com or 703-250-1492.

Calling all 3rd Degree Knights: The 4th Degree is calling you to participate in patriotic activities, color guards and programs that promote Catholic citizenship. Starting in August, 4th Degree Assembly meetings will be the second Tuesday of the month in the Nativity school cafeteria: 7:30pm rosary, 7:45pm business meeting followed by fellowship. If you are interested in becoming a 4th Degree Sir Knight, please contact our Faithful Navigator Vince Augelli at fn2996@vakofc.org for more information.

St. Lucy Food Drive: On Saturday, 29 July, we will have our next St. Lucy Food Drive. The drive will run from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, with the St. Lucy truck parked at the rear of the church parking lot nearest Old Keene Mill Road (like in the February drive). We will run two shifts (9:00 AM-11:00 AM and 11:00 AM-1:00 PM), and the St Lucy Team could use the help of 6 Knights (3 per shift) to collect the donations. Please consider helping. Sign up on linktree. We will be handing out the blue St. Lucy bags after every Mass during the weekend of 22-23 July (the weekend prior to the drive), please help with handing out bags. For questions, email Jason Hines at nativity.stlucyteam@gmail.com.

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! Simply go to <https://info.kofc.org/us.html> and enter our council #7992 for local information and to register. E-membership for the first year is free using the new code "blessedmcgivney". Please email our Deputy Grand Knight at cokofc7992@gmail.com or the Grand Knight at pmdelatte@gmail.com if you have any questions.

WORKCAMP 2023 REFLECTIONS

JUNE 17-23 | FREDERICK COUNTY, VA

This past June, our high schoolers participated in a week-long overnight camp where they engaged in meaningful service and intentional Christian community. We are grateful for your financial and spiritual support which helped send our teens and volunteers to WorkCamp. Head to the website to read their full testimonies.

"Witnessing the love of Christ in the face of everyone I encountered was an incredibly profound experience. My guarded heart became more and more open every day I spent with my parish, my crew, and the other teens in general."
- Megan Smith

"My WorkCamp experience was great because I was able to make lasting memories, and it changed the trajectory of my life... I was reacquainted with friends from my Vietnamese parish, and it inspired me to begin participating in their church again next year." - Austin Nguyen

"Before WorkCamp I was not living a Christ centered life, but this experience has inspired me to grow my faith and work towards that goal more."
- Hannah Engdahl



You can designate Nativity Church or Nativity School as the beneficiaries of your Amazon Smile! You can choose Nativity by going to: **YOUR ACCOUNT, YOUR AMAZON SMILE and designating Nativity.** Amazon then contributes a small percentage of each purchase to Nativity. For questions, please contact Ann Benson at: 703 455 2400. Thank you!



Upper Room Theatre Presents Cinderella July 18-23

Let your imagination soar as the All Saints award-winning Upper Room Theatre presents Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella, July 18-23! Experience this magical musical like never before as the All Saints Performing Arts Center (9310 Stonewall Road, Manassas, VA) undergoes a remarkable transformation, bringing you its first-ever "theatre in the round," immersive experience!

This timeless tale has captivated worldwide audiences since its smash-hit Broadway debut—now it arrives in Northern Virginia to enchant you and your family! Featuring delightful twists, jaw-dropping transformations, and beloved songs from the legendary composing team, Cinderella is an incredibly fun musical for dreamers of all ages. This uplifting show weaves together powerful messages of respect, charity, and the courage to do what's right. Don't miss this unforgettable theatrical event!

Reserve your seats now at UpperRoomTickets.com.

PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC):

Is a social group, mostly age 60 and over. (40 to 59?)

Ask about our free associate-membership group.)

Meet us for: Mass at Holy Spirit & lunch (July 23); dinner & jazz concert in Annandale (July 28); Hot Dog & Apple Pie Social at Lake Accotink (Aug. 2); Nationals baseball game (Aug. 13). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.

WORLD CLASS SPORTS PRESENTS

NATIVITY'S SHOOTING STARS SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMPS & CLINICS

Session 1: 4 Day Camp
August 7th - 10th. **\$250**
9 am - 4pm

Session 2: 3 Day Camp
August 16 - 18 **\$200**
9 am - 4pm

Camp will be indoors @ Nativity
School

6398 Nativity Ln, Burke, VA 22015



DETAILS:

- Boys & Girls
- Ages 7-14
- Children will be grouped by age.
- All skill levels welcomed.
- Daily Schedule On Website



SKILLS CLINICS

8/8, 8/10, 8/16, 8/18
(3rd - 5th Grade) 6 pm - 7pm
(6th - 8th Grade) 7 pm - 8 pm

\$100

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE
JULY 23**

REGISTER FOR CAMP & CLINICS TOGETHER RECEIVE \$20 OFF

Registration Online
www.worldclasssportsgroup.com




More Information
202-818-0786

NO HANDS BUT YOURS MINISTRY

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 D.C. AND NORTHERN VIRGINIA EVERY SUNDAY MORNING, RAIN OR SHINE.

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT THE NATIVITY PARISH WEBSITE OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN DAILY/SUNDAY RUNS, PLEASE CONTACT JOHN RUBINO AT: JOHN.ALBERT.RUBINO@GMAIL.COM.

<http://nativityburke.org/service/no-hands-but-yours/>



Happy Birthday!

Father Jonathan Bennett
July 15th

The Nativity History Book is FOR SALE!!

For \$15 you and your family can take home a copy of the first 50 years of our parish history. This book was written by a committee of Nativity parishioners and includes many colorful photos for the whole family to enjoy. You're welcome to purchase your copy at the gift shop or parish office during business hours with a check or cash (exact change please).



KINGS DOMINION

RISING 9TH - RECENTLY GRADUATED 12TH GRADERS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

COST: \$50

Transportation provided
Register on the parish website by July 24

CONTACT: CYM@NATIVITYBURKE.ORG




CALLING ALL GRADUATING SENIORS:

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR AN ASJB COLLEGE NIGHT!

faith, fellowship, fun & free pizza!

Attention Class of 2023 Seniors! The Associates of St. John Bosco invites rising college freshmen to attend a College Night at one of the following parishes:

July 19th - Basilica of St. Mary (Alexandria)
July 26th - Holy Cross Academy (Stafford)

College Nights help rising college freshmen and transfer students 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 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. Please encourage your student to sign up! There will be five nights across the Diocese and all nights will begin at 7:00pm. For more information, please visit www.asjb.org. Registration is limited to 50 students per night.

Looking for a Project for Your Group or Family?

Holding a drive for things that ECHO needs is a great project for your group or for teaching generosity to your children. ECHO provides guidelines and tips on our website at echo-inc.org on how to do it. Click on "Donate Goods," and choose "ECHO Donation Drive Guidelines." You can hold a drive for things that won't cost your donors any money such as gently used children's fall and winter clothing for Back to School, or large pots and pans or towels that the original owner no longer needs. If your intended collection audience is willing to purchase things for ECHO, remember that we will be gathering new school supplies for our Backpack Program this summer, and we can always use non-perishable food and personal hygiene supplies.



NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



Come See All We Have To Offer. We look forward to meeting you! For School Year 2023-2024 We Have Classroom Seats Available for 3rd, 4th, & 7th Graders!

JOIN OUR STAFF! Consider joining our School Staff as part of our Extended Care Team to help us provide After-School Care by contacting our Extended Care Director, Mrs. Jen Behan at (703) 455-2300, or jbehan@nativityschool.org. To assist us as a Lunch/Recess Monitor, or Substitute Teacher, please contact Rich Godwin at (703) 455-2300, or rgodwin@nativityschool.org.

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

Students Take Charge!

One of our most fun end-of-year activities is Principal/Teacher/Staff Member of the Day! It is offered each school year through the Nativity Auction, where families can bid on and buy Principal or Teacher or Staff Member of the Day, for nearly every grade level and specialty. This school year, Principal Madeleine Baran began her term by giving the entire student body a dress-down day! All around the school, students served as classroom teachers and assistants, librarian, and lunchroom director – teaching lessons, running classrooms, reading aloud, managing the lunchroom, leading prayer, and more! We all had great fun – and learned a lot!



YOUTH MINISTRY

cym@nativityburke.org

LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12
Sundays | 6:30-8:30pm

Dinner

Weekly gatherings resume August 27, 2023

Fellowship

Prayer & Formation

LASER TAG & S'MORES - JULY 16, 7:00-9:00PM

KINGS DOMINION - JULY 26

PETERSON'S ICE CREAM - AUGUST 16



EDGE: GRADES 6-8

Alternating Sundays 3:30-5pm & Fridays 7-8:30pm
Gatherings resume in September

Meet new friends

Play games

Explore your faith



KINGS DOMINION REGISTRATION

All rising 9th - recently graduated 12th graders are invited to join us at Kings Dominion on July 26! Tickets are \$50. Registration and more info can be found on our website.



Painting through Grief
Sunday, July 16
 Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home
 2:00pm - 4:00pm
 Register at fairfaxmemorialfuneralhome.com
 Register by Friday, July 7, 2023
 A Free Event
Connect Heal Create

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

15th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday July 16

Isaiah 55:10-11
Ps 65:10-14 (Luke 8:8)
Romans 8:18-23
Matthew 13:1-23

Monday July 17

Ex 1:8-14,22
Ps 124:1b-8
Matthew 10:34 – 11:1

Tuesday July 18

Ex 2:1-15a
Ps 69:3,14,30-31,33-34
Matthew 11:20-24

Wednesday July 19

Ex 3:1-6,9-12
Ps 103:1b-4,6-7
Matthew 11:25-27

Thursday July 20

Ex 3:13-20
Ps 105:1,5,8-9,24-27
Matthew 11:28-30

Friday July 21

Ex 11:10 – 12:14
Ps 116:12-13,15,16b-18
Matthew 12:1-8

Saturday July 22

St. Mary Magdalene
Sgs 3:1-4b OR
2 Cor 5:14-17
Ps 63:2-6,8-9
Jn 20:1-2,11-18

Sunday's readings are about sowing seeds. The important thing to remember about seed sowing is that the effort is worthless if the seeds are not changed by being cast to the ground. Each seed must give up its former self, dying in the dirt while new life stirs within it. Only then can it send out a tender, first root, which will multiply and grow stronger and deeper to support upward growth. Even so, it has to be properly nourished to survive.

If all this takes place, the end result is a plant that looks nothing like the seed, which as it grows develops the ever-more important mission of benefitting the wider world of Nature beyond itself.

As we listen to Jesus explain the parable, we say yes, we want to be seeds that become fruitful lives. But desiring it does not automatically transform us. What is it that makes the soil of our lives rich and growth-producing?

The reading from Isaiah tells us that it is God himself who is the rich soil – God and his Word. Saint Paul reminds us in the second reading that suffering is part of creation (seeds must fall in the dirt and die in order to produce a fruitful life). Redemption grows from suffering and death.

We will never feel truly fulfilled until we've surrendered to the



soil and have allowed God to nourish our growth.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † What tender, new roots do you have that are sprouting from times of suffering and loss?
- † What blessings are springing up from them?
- † What ministry (what benefit to others) could be a fruitful gift of these blessings?
- † Share with your family or faith sharing group what it means to give up your former self to allow new life to stir and grow.
- † What is the will of God (what does the Word say) regarding the end result? Give examples from your life or from the lives of others.

**LLAMADOS A DAR
O HACER ALGO
Domingo XV (A)
Javier Leoz**



¿Qué tal va la cosecha? Preguntaba un turista a un viejo labriego. Bien..pero podía ir mejor. Contestó el propietario. Uno siembra... pero no siempre recoge lo que espera.

1. En estos tres próximos domingos, incluido el de hoy, vamos a meditar tres impresionantes parábolas conocidas como las parábolas del Reino.

¿Qué pretenden? Ni más ni menos que sensibilizarnos, interpelarnos seriamente en el cómo vivimos nuestra fe y si hacemos algo por transmitirla a los demás.

¿Cuántas cosas recibimos de Dios! Hay algunos que dicen que no; que todo lo que son, adquieren, mueven y disfrutan, es fruto de la casualidad o del propio esfuerzo.

Los creyentes, sin embargo, sabemos que Dios dirige como nadie esta complicada maquinaria del mundo y que, nada de lo que acontece en él, ocurre sin su consentimiento.

Qué bueno sería que saboreásemos la parábola de este domingo. Salió el sembrador a sembrar y, encontró a gente como nosotros.

Y por si no nos hemos dado cuenta, nosotros, somos campo y sembradores a la vez. ¿Qué cómo puede ser? ¿Que es imposible? ¿Somos siembra y sembrador!

Desde el día de nuestro Bautismo, el Señor, puso en nosotros la semilla de la fe. A continuación, con el paso de los años, en el campo de nuestra vida espiritual, el Señor ha ido depositando, una y otra vez, simientes de su amor, de su Eucaristía, del Sacramento de la Reconciliación. ¿O es que, los sacramentos, no son pepitas de las buenas, de esas que crecen y nos hacen fuertes frente a tantas adversidades?

Pero, como en los campos castigados por la sequía o por la cizaña, también con nosotros ocurre algo parecido: o queremos y no podemos, o dejamos malograr aquello que Dios depositó en lo más hondo de nuestras entrañas.

2. ¿Qué tal va la cosecha? Nos pregunta el Señor en este domingo. Que ¿qué tal va, Señor? ¡Aquí nos tienes! Lo intentamos; queremos ser de los tuyos, pero somos muy nuestros; queremos dar la cara por ti, pero tenemos miedo a que nos lastimen; nos gustaría anunciar tu Reino, pero preferimos sentarnos frente al televisor y dejarnos seducir por los anuncios de bienes pasajeros.

Es así, amigos; nuestra vida cristiana ha estado muy acostumbrada a recibir. ¿Y cuando vamos a dar? ¿Cuándo nos vamos a sentir comprometidos, y ya que estamos en el Año Paulino, a dar razón de nuestra esperanza? ¿Como San Pablo, sabemos de quién nos hemos fiado? Un campo, como el de los cristianos, no puede estar en permanente vacación. Mejor dicho; una vida, como la de los cristianos, no puede conformarse con mirar hacia el cielo; con esperar a que todo se nos dé hecho. Hemos recibido mucho y, en justicia y por contraprestación, por amor a Dios y por coherencia, hemos de brindar algo de lo mucho que Dios nos da. ¿Lo intentamos?

-Los que sois padres ¿por qué no os involucráis un poco más en la educación cristiana de vuestros hijos? ¿Estáis dando el tanto por ciento que Dios espera de vosotros?

-Los que sois sacerdotes ¿anunciamos el Reino con todas las consecuencias o...lo hacemos de una forma dulce y descafeinada para no herir sensibilidades?

-Los que sois políticos o tenéis algún cargo de responsabilidad ¿Lo hacéis para todos o sólo para algunos?

-Los que sois jóvenes ¿sentís, en vuestra vida, algo más que la pura apariencia, las prisas, el disfrute o la fiesta?

-Los que sois niños ¿os dais cuenta de lo mucho que otros hacen por vosotros?

Un campo, el espiritual, que no se cuida, el día de mañana nos pasa factura.

3. Sí; es verdad. Tenemos que hacer todos algo más. ¡Hemos recibido tanto! ¡No podemos guardar, el tesoro de la fe, en el banco de nuestros propios intereses. No podemos consentir que, la semilla de la fe, se pierda por falta de interés, por timidez, por falsas vergüenzas o, simplemente, porque ya no nos hemos preocupado de regalarla con el abono de la oración, la Palabra de Dios, la caridad o la Eucaristía dominical.

Por cierto, hoy más que nunca, el sembrador sigue mirando y saliendo a sus campos. El Señor, sigue observando a los creyentes y ¡cuánto espera de ellos! ¡Cuánto espera de nosotros!

¿Estamos dispuestos hacer algo por Cristo?

Para muestra un botón; miremos a nuestro alrededor. ¡Cuántas almas secas! ¡Cuántos corazones que palpitan con todo y de todo, menos con Dios! ¡Cuánto maligno disfrazado de bienestar aparente!

Sí, amigos; a tiempos difíciles...cristianos valientes y convencidos. En tiempos de incredulidad; hombres y mujeres que sepan en quién creen, por qué y para qué. Hay que huir del "cristiano bajo mínimos" y lanzarnos con todas las consecuencias, con audacia y entusiasmo, a la siembra de Cristo en el mundo.

Y es que, un domingo más, sale el sembrador...y malo será que nos encuentre al "0" por ciento.

Bondad y felicidad Cristiano de hoy

No querer estar bien, sino a hacer el bien, y así estaremos todos mucho mejor.

Por: Lluçia Pou i Sabaté | Fuente: Catholic.net
Todos queremos ser felices, pero no tenemos un “dispositivo” para conseguir directamente la felicidad: la publicidad muchas veces engaña, al ofrecer algo muy por encima de lo que da aquel producto.

Tenemos el placer y riqueza y todo esto como sucedáneos que duran poco; la felicidad hay que buscarla principalmente en las cosas espirituales (conocer y amar), a través de la potencia volitiva, que está en querer lo bueno: he de orientar mi vida –como decía Manzoni– no a estar bien, sino a hacer el bien, y así estaremos todos mucho mejor; es decir no he de querer ser feliz, sino bueno, y haciendo cosas buenas soy feliz, porque me convierto en bueno. Un «hombre bueno» es la manera que tenemos de honrar una persona cabal.



Al estudiar la ética filosófica se entiende que el hombre tiende a la felicidad pero ésta consiste en satisfacer todas sus funciones lo cual implica que a través de sus facultades superiores puede conocer cómo sentirse realizado (inteligencia) y cómo realizar esa plenitud (voluntad). Pero la voluntad consiste en el querer y esta facultad no busca estar bien sino que tiende a través de la libertad escoger lo que es bueno. Es decir que la voluntad como objeto de sus operaciones no tiene el ser feliz, sino lo que aparece como bueno a sus “apetencias”. Por eso dice Manzoni que lo importante no es estar bien sino hacer el bien y así estaremos todos mucho mejor. Podría decirme a mí mismo que “esencial y radicalmente no he de querer ser feliz, sino bueno. Y es así como “de rebote” seré feliz.» En cambio, la búsqueda del placer me lleva a la insatisfacción. Puede parecer complicado, que la felicidad se adquiere no directamente sino “de rebote” cuando hago el bien, pero la más cruel de las desventajas es el engaño de mostrar la felicidad en señuelos pasajeros que dejan rastro de vaciedad.

Pero aún hay que dar otro paso, pues la voluntad tiende al bien pero el bien supremo es el amor. Es más, el hombre –imagen de Dios, que es amor– se realiza cuando –como el modelo de su ejemplar– vive de amor, reconoce el amor y se dedica a amar, la felicidad es propia de un corazón enamorado, del que sabe querer. En definitiva, para ser buenos no hay que hacer cosas bien en un sentido de moral de obligación, sino que se han de unir las dos cosas: el bien y el amor. Porque ella es siempre la consecuencia -¡no buscada!- de la propia perfección, de la propia bondad. Y para ser buenos, hay que olvidarse por completo de uno mismo y querer procurar el bien de los demás, recuerda Tomás Melendo: “hay que aprender a amar. Únicamente entonces, cuando la desestimemos plenamente, nos sobrevendrá, como un regalo, como un don inesperado, la felicidad. El amor, sólo el amor, engendra la dicha”.

El gozo se alcanza siempre al tener lo bueno que se buscaba, y así desde el placer que es el gozo más sensible hasta el éxtasis –salir de uno mismo– que es el más sublime. En todos los casos, es siempre consecuencia de tender a lo que se ve como bueno y cuando se busca el gozo en sí mismo se aborta.

El goce de la felicidad es consecuencia del amor, señal de plenitud en la realización personal, como decía Aristóteles, «querer al otro en cuanto otro», es decir, amar. O como dice la moderna fenomenología de Gehlen y Plessner: la superioridad del hombre sobre los

procurar el bien de los otros (no pensar en que me quieran, sino en querer). Entonces volvemos a confirmarnos en que somos imagen de Dios, quien obra por amor, pone el amor, y quiere sólo amor, correspondencia, reciprocidad, amistad: y puesto que el hombre es imagen del Amor, se realiza también cuando ama, cuando vive de amor, y si no, no es hombre, es hombre frustrado, autorreducido a cosa. Como dice “Gaudium et spes” del Vaticano II, «el hombre, única criatura terrestre a la que Dios ha amado por sí misma, no puede encontrar su propia plenitud si no es en la entrega sincera de sí mismo a los demás», es decir en el éxtasis, la donación amorosa. El hombre bueno es quien hace el bien a los demás, y el hombre malo el que es egoísta y perjudica a los demás, pero entonces se autodestruye pues renuncia a ser hombre. Pero el mal no tiene la última palabra, existe el perdón: pues el amor es fecundo y tiene frutos, hijos: la fecundidad del amor es su hijo, que es el perdón. Como fruto del amor viene la misericordia que mueva a perdonar todo, y entonces es verdad que “amar es no tener que decir nunca lo siento”, pues está el perdón “englobado” en el amor, metido

QUIERO, SEÑOR

Ser campo, donde tu mano siembre,
y trabajo donde yo me afane.
Ser camino por donde tu te acerques,
y sendero por el que otros, al avanzar con ellos,
puedan llegar a conocerte y amarte.

QUIERO, SEÑOR

Que las piedras que entorpecen tu gran obra
las deje a un lado, con la ayuda de tu Palabra
Que la superficialidad en la que navego
dé lugar a la profundidad de tu Misterio

QUIERO, SEÑOR

Que nunca se seque en mí
lo que, en mi Bautismo, Tú iniciaste
Que las zarzas del materialismo
no ahoguen la vida del Espíritu
que en mi alma habita
Que el sol abrasador, de la comodidad
o del materialismo,
nunca sean más grandes que mi deseo
de amarte, seguirte y ofrecer mi vida por Ti.

QUIERO, SEÑOR

Dar el diez, o el veinte o el treinta por ciento
por Ti y por tu Reino,
más, bien Tú lo sabes,
que eres el Dueño de mi hacienda
el responsable de mis campos
la mano certera de mis sembrados

QUIERO, SEÑOR

Que lo que me des, yo esté dispuesto
a entregarlo a todos aquellos
que todavía no te conocen

QUIERO, SEÑOR

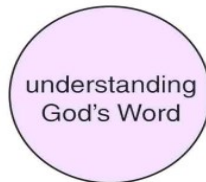
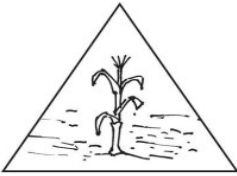
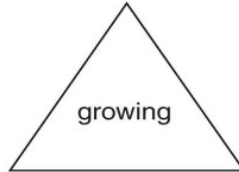
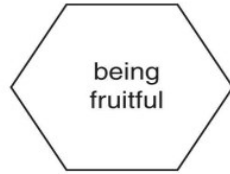
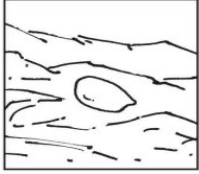
Que, siendo campo con tantas posibilidades,
metas Tú, la mano del Buen Sembrador,
y recojas lo que más necesites
para el mundo y para mis hermanos

Amén.



Some seed fell on good soil. It grew well. That's like people who hear God's Word and obey.

Match the shapes.



Find part of the parable.

Use the picture code to fill in the blanks.



seed



joy



root




rocky



people

" ... the  _____

on  _____

ground is like



who hear with  _____

but have no



_____ ."



The Parable of the Sower

Jesus told a parable. The people listened.

Circle the people's ears and count how many. Trace the correct number.

10 12 14



Some seed fell among thorns. It started to grow, but weeds choked it.

Circle the picture that is different.





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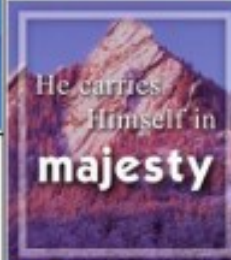
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