



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys it.”

Matthew 13:44

© Diocesan



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

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/College Ministry
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.
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./
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

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

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



"We know that all things work for good for those who love God." - Rom 8.28

My dear parishioners,

Jesus tells us the story of the joy of unexpected discovery of a treasure in a field, which causes a person to sell everything and buy the field. A second parable is of a merchant who has been looking all his life for a precious pearl, and when he finds it, he sells all to buy it. These stories mirror people's experience of discovering God's love and compassion. Some find this "treasure" unexpectedly and others after a long search.

In our parish of Nativity, we need to always appreciate the invaluable treasure of Christ and the Church in which this treasure is hidden. We love the church and work together in the church because we know that it is in the church where one finds Christ. The treasure of Christ and the church is a "pearl of great price" and is of supreme value in our lives. No matter how we seek, we will never be able to contribute to anything greater than to the work of Christ and His Church.

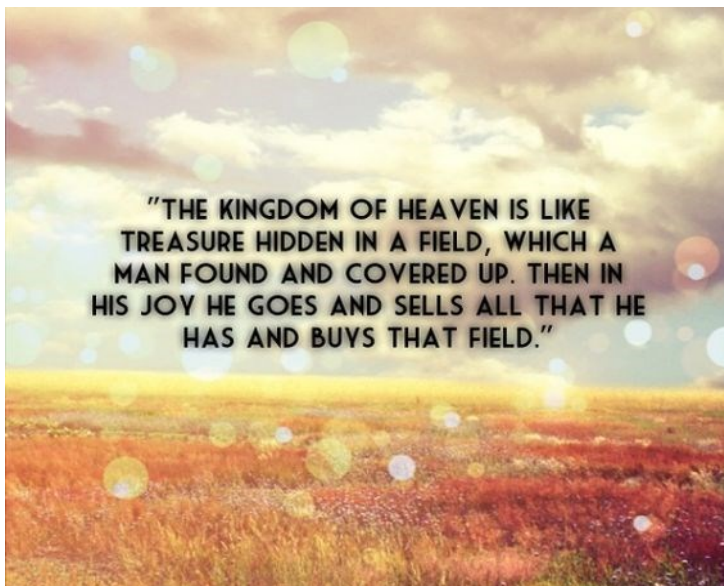
Reflect on moments of joyful discovery of God's "treasures" and "pearls" in your own life. Finders, keepers!

Love and Summer Blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski
Fr. Bob Cilinski,
Pastor

NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

"We, the People of Nativity Catholic Church, by our baptism, are joyful disciples of Jesus Christ. We strive to love God, love others, and form new disciples. We celebrate Jesus Christ in Word, Sacrament and Service."





Statement by Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Knestout on Updated Model Policies for Public Schools July 20, 2023

Recently, the Virginia Department of Education released updated "Model Policies Ensuring Privacy, Dignity, and Respect for All Students and Parents in Virginia's Public Schools." It can be viewed at: <https://www.doe.virginia.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/46509>

We commend Governor Youngkin and his Administration for issuing these updated policies, which are a considerable improvement and much needed remediation of the policies put in place by the prior Administration. The new policies enhance transparency for parents and restore their primary role in the education, care and health of their children. They affirm and protect the dignity and safety of every student. They also respect the religious liberty and conscience rights of all members of Virginia's public school community.

We urge parents whose children attend Virginia public schools to become familiar with the updated policies, to engage in discussion about them at the local level, and – most importantly – to embrace their critical role in the lives of their children at home and at school.



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.

In search of paid childcare providers for The Nativity Childcare Ministry

"I became the Childcare Ministry Coordinator because I wanted to help as many families as possible attend parish events. I have people that can help with my son but so many families at Nativity do not have that, so we are here to help!"



Please help out our new ministry and become a childcare provider. Just go to the childcare ministry page on the parish website and answer a few questions and we will get back to you!"

Taylor, Nativity's Childcare Coordinator

<https://nativityburke.org/childcare-ministry/#provider>

RCIA – Encounter Jesus through Full Communion with the Catholic Church ‘Come and See’

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about Catholicism? Are you missing the Sacrament of the Eucharist or Confirmation? We invite you to join Nativity’s Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) journey of faith, starting September 18, 2023, with our Monday evening sessions from 7:00pm to 8:30pm in the Fr. Ready Room.

RCIA forms new disciples, as adults prepare to enter the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil, Saturday, March 30, 2024, with reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. Our Monday sessions continue until just prior to Pentecost Sunday 2024, preparing for life in the Church as intentional disciples. This faith journey deepens one’s personal relationship with Jesus by encountering him through passionate teaching, personal witness, table discussion time with opportunities for Q&A, prayer and Eucharistic Adoration, spiritual events, and a Lenten outreach project.

RCIA is open to those who have not been baptized, Christians baptized in another faith, and baptized Catholics who have not received catechesis for the other Sacraments of Initiation.

For details, contact the Church at (703) 455-2400, or speak to Father Bob Cilinski, or e-mail Linda Loffredo at lindaloffredo@gmail.com. Visit our website <https://nativityburke.org/rcia/> for more information and registration.

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

NEW KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LADIES AUXILIARY GROUP

The K of C Ladies Auxiliary Group was 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 7:00pm in the Fr. Ready Room. We will not meet in August, but will meet on September 5.

Please contact kdelatte65@gmail.com for additional information or to be added to our email list for upcoming events and ways to support the knights.

Huge PARISH YARD SALE

FRIDAY, AUG 4 5:30 PM - 8 PM

SATURDAY, AUG 5 8 AM - 2 PM FREE ADMISSION

Yard Sale at Holy Spirit Catholic Church
5121 Woodland Way, Annandale, VA 22003
 The annual parish sale will be from 5:30pm to 8:00pm on Friday, August 4 and from 8:00am to 2:00pm on Saturday, August 5

SAVE THE DATE

NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

FALL FESTIVAL

09.30.2023

FOOD

FAMILY FUN

GAMES

PLANNING COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!
FALLFESTIVAL@NATIVITYBURKE.ORG

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. Read their testimonies below.



"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, Senior



"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, Junior

"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, Sophomore



Head to the website or scan the QR code to read the full reflections.



MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, July 31st

7:30 am † Anna Trebatsky

Tuesday, August 1st

7:30 am † Richard Mueller
12:00 pm † Adam Rosinski Sr.

Wednesday, August 2nd

7:30 am † Dr. Robert T. & Aletta Stormont
3:00 pm Parishioners

Thursday, August 3rd

7:30 am † Mary Jo Allowatt
12:00 pm † Kay Stuchlak

Friday, August 4th

7:30 am † Nancy Kretsch

Saturday, August 5th

9:00 am † Javier Oswaldo Cueva Guzman
5:00 pm Parishioners
7:00 pm † Manuel Cuya Alejo

Sunday, August 6th

7:00 am † Joan Kowalski
9:00 am Special Int. for Turner
11:00 am † Erin L. Turner
1:00 pm † Marc Torres Sanidad
5:30 pm † Phyllis Balberchak

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

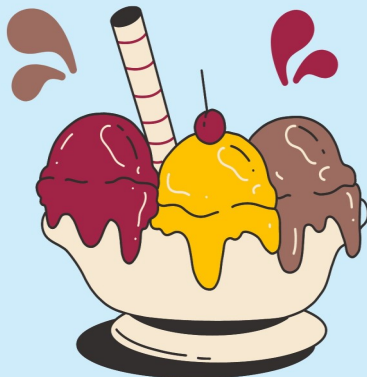
The Music Ministry is looking for a Pianist. Candidates should be proficient in piano skills, reading music and be able to accompany choirs or singers. Please reply to cfischl@Nativityburke.org if interested!

Love working with children? Want flexibility? Consider subbing for us...

- We are in need of substitute teachers for the new school year 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
 - ◆ Successful completion of Virtus training
 - ◆ Successful background check
 - ◆ Adherence to COVID-19 Safety Protocols

To apply, email Rich Godwin at rgodwin@nativityschool.org, or call him at (703) 455-2300, ext.146. Thank you!

NATIVITY YOUTH MINISTRY Ice Cream AT PETERSON'S



wednesday; august 16
7:00-8:30pm

7150 MAIN ST, CLIFTON, VA

20124

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED - SEE THE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO RSVP

ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS ARE WELCOME- BRING A FRIEND!



Council Meetings: Due to school cleaning, the cafeteria is not available for a council meeting on 1 Aug. We will have a small meeting in the Fr. Ready Room to address any new business that cannot wait until 15 August and to go over this fraternal year's programs and events. Only GK, DGK, Chancellor and Program Chairs (Community, Faith, Family & Life) are requested to attend. If there is any pressing new business to handle then Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Recorder and Trustees are requested as well. 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. 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.

Blood Drive: at Nativity Church. Book your appointment today, sign up on linktree, August 5, 7 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Adopt-A-Highway: August 12, sign up on linktree.

Delta Drive Volunteers: sign up on linktree.

End Of Year Dinner: 2022 – 2023 on August 19th. Council Members spouses, sign up on linktree.

Mowing: A deceased Knight's 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](mailto:navy8@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.

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.

Nativity Parish Blood Drive

WHEN:

Saturday, Aug. 5, 2023

7 a.m. – 12 p.m.

WHERE:

6400 Nativity Ln.

Burke, VA

The Inova Blood Donor Services Bloodmobile will be parked in the parking lot.



As a thank you for donating, all donors will receive a Crossbody Bag*.

Book Your Appointment Today

• Visit <https://bit.ly/NP0805>

• Call 1(866) 256-6372, use Sponsor Code 6052

• Contact Mark Altobelli (571) 309-7194 - mark.altobelli@gmail.com



inovablood.org

Photo ID Required. Masking is optional for all donors and team members. Allow one hour for your donation. *While supplies last. Colors may vary. Must complete screening process to receive giveaway.



The Knights of Columbus, in coordination with INOVA, will conduct a Blood Drive at the Church of Nativity on August 5 from 7:00 AM until Noon. You can sign up online at Inova - Donor Portal (inovabloodsaves.org). You can also sign-up after Mass on July 29-30.

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

33 Day Retreat Series

Fr. Michael E. Gaitley, MIC, authored a retreat series you can do by yourself or better yet, with other Nativity parishioners. Nativity parish retreats are offered twice a year in the Fall and the Spring. There are daily readings of 2-3 pages, and a virtual weekday evening meeting on Zoom once a week for six weeks. There is a consecration ceremony and an in-person reception.

Father Gaitley's trilogy of consecrations has positively impacted the spiritual lives of millions throughout the world. Nativity participant comments: *"I gained a better understanding of God's immense love for us. Through Jesus, God calls us to surrender ourselves completely to Him and rejoice in His love which is vast, absolutely humbling, and a true blessing."* Please join us for consecrations to Blessed Mary, to Jesus' Divine Mercy and finally, to God Our Father. We also offer a 33 Day retreat for consecration to St. Joseph, Protector of the Holy Church. Contact: Steve Lisi at email: 33DayConsecration@NativityBurke.org.



Mass & Rosary in Thanksgiving for Human Life

Saturday, August 19

Mass: 9:00 AM

**Good Shepherd Catholic Church
8710 Mt. Vernon Hwy., Alexandria, VA**



**Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Celebrant and Homilist**

Rosary to follow outside 2616 Sherwood Hall Ln. after Mass



Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life
Catholic Diocese of Arlington
FamilyLife@ArlingtonDiocese.org
703.841.2550



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.

This Week ~ Nativity School Uniform Sale/Swap August 2&3

Each year a Uniform Swap/Sale is held for all families, current and new, to come find uniform pieces for your student. Best selection, of courses, is on the first day. If you are a current family and have uniform pieces that your student does not use anymore, bring them to the Swap so that another family can use them. New families, don't miss out on this event! **All donated items must be in good condition - no holes or stains; washed and clean.** New uniform items can be purchased in-person or online at Flynn & O'Hara (<https://flynnohara.com>). Questions? Please contact Shannon Murphy at (703) 455-2300, or smurph@nativityschool.org.

Charcuterie Opportunity Unfolds Tastefully!



Among the several 'Instant Buy' events from the PTO Auction this Spring was a lesson in the art of creating a charcuterie board. Mya McCormack, with Love Language Boards & Co., taught a small group of folks from our Nativity community how to create their own charcuterie boards. As part of this auction 'Instant Buy' purchase, each of the participants also received an engraved cutting board (personalized with their own last name!).

While some guests snacked as they built their boards, there was plenty of food remaining on each platter to take home to impress the family!
A GREAT BIG thank you to Celeste McLane and her PTO post for the information.



Join us at Nativity to see how your child would spend his/her days here -- learning, praying, sharing, loving, and laughing.
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.

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



PETERSON'S ICE CREAM AUGUST 16, 7:00-8:30PM

All rising 9th - recently graduated 12th graders are invited to meet us at Peterson's for ice cream & fellowship. Registration is required - see the website for more details and to RSVP.



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!

NATIVITY GIFT SHOP - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Gift shop desperately needs volunteers to open after all Masses on Sunday. Training will be provided, the work is easy and will require only about 15 minutes of your time (about half an hour on busy days). All proceeds benefit Nativity charities. We should have 2 volunteers at every Mass. Currently the biggest need is for the 7:00am, 9:00am, 1:00pm, and 5:30pm Mass. If interested, please call or stop by the parish office, or leave your name and telephone number at the Gift shop.

**ECHO Food Room Most Needed Items - August 2023
Nativity Collection: NEXT weekend 5/6 August**

- Choose sizes appropriate for our average family size of four.
- Because of the generosity of our community, ECHO has an ample supply of canned vegetables and stuffing. However, we are short on many other items such as personal care products and the items listed below.
- ECHO cannot give our clients food whose expiration date is long past, open food, or repackaged food (no zip-loc bags).
- ECHO continues to see a deficit of several thousand pounds a month between food donated and food given to clients. Since the beginning of the pandemic ECHO has seen an increase in need and this need has not abated. Any donation, large or small, is most gratefully welcomed. We collected 847 lbs this last time, thank you for your generosity!

FOOD ITEMS

Spaghetti noodles	Bagged beans (black and red)
Spaghetti Sauce	Bag or Box Rice
Masa Flour	Box Potatoes
Cereal	Box Pasta (especially spaghetti)
Soup (Progresso or	Spices (garlic or onion salt,
Chunky type preferred)	cinnamon, salt, pepper)
Cooking Oil	Canned Fruit
Sugar	Ketchup or Mayonnaise
Honey or Jelly	Tortillas
Pancake Mix	Muffin/Cornbread Mix
Pancake Syrup	Coffee (Instant or ground)
Lemon/Lime Juice	NON-FOOD ITEMS
Tea (green or herbal)	Shaving Cream/Razors
Milk products (canned,	Deodorant, Toothpaste
shelf stable, hot chocolate)	Shampoo, Toilet Paper
Crackers, dates, nuts dried	Dish Soap, Paper Towels
fruit, healthy snacks	Brown Paper Grocery Bags

Mass and Rosary in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life
Join Bishop Burbidge for Holy Mass in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life on Saturday, August 19, 2023, at 9:00am, at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Alexandria, Virginia. Holy Mass will be followed by a rosary at the abortion facility at 2616 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306. Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mount Vernon Hwy, Alexandria, VA.

Day of Prayer and Healing After Abortion Care for Women
After Abortion Retreats: A Day of Prayer & Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held on Saturday, September 30, 2023. These group healing events are held in a private and peaceful setting, in English and Spanish, based on the Entering Canaan model. There will be an opportunity to hear from a past participant and others who have found healing. You are not alone. Take the first step. For confidential inquiries, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: (703) 841-2504

ECHO Needs a Handy Volunteer!

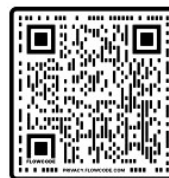
If you are handy at fixing things, you can share your skills at ECHO and be part of our mission! We need a Fix-It Desk volunteer to test non-clothing donations such as small appliances, order supplies for the building, change the HVAC filters, and maintain the fire extinguishers. This is an important position, and if it interests you, please email volunteercoordinator@echo-inc.org to find out more.



Submit your recipe for

GATHER AT THE TABLE

Multicultural Cooking for Liturgical Living



Tell your family story through food! We are seeking recipes from across the globe for a special Diocesan Jubilee Anniversary cookbook. To find out more and submit your recipe, scan the QR code or visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/jubilee-gather-at-the-table
DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2023

Questions?

Contact the Office of Multicultural Ministries at mcm@arlingtondiocese.org or call 703 (841) -3881



Nativity Religious Education Program

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



To register please
visit our website:

nativityburke.org/re/

or scan QR-Code



Sign Up For the Diocesan E-Newsletter!

Receive special video messages from our bishop, learn about unique opportunities to get involved, and be the first to know the news about our Diocese - straight to your inbox.

Sign up here: arlingtondiocese.org/email

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday July 30

1 Kings 3:5,7-12
 Ps 119:57,72,76-77,
 127-130(97a)
 Romans 8:28-30
 Matthew 13:44-52

Monday July 31

St. Ignatius of Loyola

Ex 32:15-24,30-34
 Ps 106:19-23
 Matthew 13:31-35

Tuesday Aug 1

St. Alphonsus Liguori

Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9,28
 Ps 103:6-13
 Matthew 13:36-43

Wednesday Aug 2

Ex 34:29-35
 Ps 99:5-7,9
 Matthew 13:44-46

Thursday Aug 3

Ex 40:16-21,34-38
 Ps 84:3-6a,8a,11
 Matthew 13:47-53

Friday Aug 4

St. John Vianney

Leviticus 23:1,4-11,
 15-16,27,34b-37
 Ps 81:3-6,10-11b
 Matthew 13:54-58

Saturday Aug 5

Leviticus 25:1,8-17
 Ps 67:2-3,5,7-8
 Matthew 14:1-12

Jesus tells us that the kingdom of God is like a buried treasure, a pearl purchased at all cost, and a net from which the bad catch of fish will be tossed away and the good catch will be valued.

In other words, our Christian lives are a huge cache of valuables. If our treasure chest has any worthless trash, the garbage needs to be tossed away to

make room for more valuables. Some of our treasures have only temporary, earthly value, and ultimately they will be worthless unless they're used for the kingdom of God.

The reading from Romans tells us that all things work together for the good of those who love God. As we purge our lives of false pearls and dead fish, we become more like our Lord. We become more useful to the kingdom of God. Even the bad things that happen to us, under the creative hand of our all-powerful, mercifully loving God, get put to good use as polishing cloths that brighten our pearls and bring out from us a better shine.



the wisest king on earth spread throughout the known world *and* he accumulated great wealth.

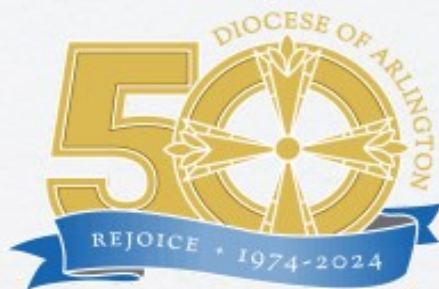
This is meant to teach us that when we seek first the treasures of God's kingdom, then we can safely use the treasures of the earth, because God's wisdom guides us in using them for the benefit of his kingdom. The more we love

Christ and follow his ways, the easier it is to identify what's really valuable, separate out the junk that does not belong to God, and use everything else for his purposes.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † What treasures are buried within you? What pearls of wisdom have you gained, and what did it cost you to learn these?
- † Write a list of your many good qualities. How do they prove that the Lord's presence is within you?
- † Choose one treasure, gift, or pearl that God has given to you – something that reveals the kingdom of God. How did you discover it or gain it?
- † What effect does this pearl have on others?

In the first reading, Solomon could have asked God for great wealth and he would have received it, but he asked for an understanding heart so that he'd have wisdom to rule the nation well. Even though he ruled imperfectly, his reputation as



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Cada ser humano escribe una historia imborrable
Cristiano de hoy
Cada opción crea un poco de bien en el mundo
Por: P. Fernando Pascual LC | Fuente:
Catholic.net

Juan tuvo un sueño profundo y muy vivo. Se encontraba en un valle inmenso. Desde todas las direcciones posibles, llegaban millones de personas: hombres y mujeres, adultos y niños, jóvenes y ancianos, trabajadores y desocupados, ricos y pobres, santos declarados, santos anónimos, pecadores convertidos y pecadores desalmados.

La muchedumbre crecía por minutos. Desde lo alto apareció un Cordero que dominaba con su presencia todo el valle. Un ángel tocó la trompeta, y se hizo un silencio dramático. Otro ángel llegó con una lista enorme, y empezó a leer nombres.

Algunos de esos nombres eran bien conocidos: Sócrates, Cicerón, Francisco de Asís, Adolf Hitler, Madre Teresa de Calcuta. Otros indicaban a personas desconocidas por la mayoría de los presentes.

Cuando se pronunciaba un nombre, el llamado pasaba al frente, a la vista de todos. Los que eran desconocidos avanzaban en medio de un silencio más o menos tenso. Los “famosos” suscitaban aplausos o gritos de condena entre grupos numerosos de personas.

El ángel de la lista gritó dos nombres: Adán y Eva. Se hizo un silencio sepulcral. Por la parte izquierda, de muy lejos, avanzaron dos figuras humanas. La multitud prorrumpió en un murmullo confuso y dividido. Unos querían aplaudir: “¡Son nuestros primeros padres!” Otros querían condenar: “¡Por vuestra culpa vino el pecado y todo tipo de males entre los hombres!” Otros querían abrazarlos: “¡Cristo vino al mundo porque Dios fue fiel al amor que os tenía y, en vosotros, a todos los hombres!”

Juan despertó. No había valle, ni multitud, ni Cordero, ni ángeles, ni trompetas. Sintió que estaba solo. Se preguntó, como pocas veces había hecho antes, qué diría él cuando tuviese la ocasión de encontrarse con Adán y con Eva.

Pero luego su mente se llenó de otras preguntas: “¿qué dirán los demás cuando escuchen mi nombre? ¿Cuántos no sentirán un poco de rabia al recordar todas las injusticias que cometí sobre ellos? ¿O habrá tal vez muchos que, agradecidos, empezarán a aplaudir, porque les ayudé, les serví, les acompañé en un momento difícil de sus vidas?”

Juan se daba cuenta de que ninguno de sus actos era indiferente. Cada ser humano escribe una historia imborrable. Cada opción crea un poco de bien en el mundo, o aumenta el mal que parece dominar en tantos corazones humanos y que hace sufrir a millones de niños hambrientos, pobres, abandonados.

Es fácil señalar a Adán y Eva y ver en ellos, en nuestros primeros padres, el origen del mucho mal que hace llorar al mundo. Es más correcto no condenar una historia que ya ha sido perdonada, para dedicarnos, desde el lugar de cada uno, a construir un mundo un poco mejor.

Juan ha llegado a la moraleja del sueño. Este día irá a trabajar con otro espíritu. Regañará a los hijos con más cariño (casi ni se sentirán regañados). Hará más feliz a la esposa al ayudar en los mil trabajos de la casa. Y en la noche, todos juntos, rezarán. Desde la casa de Juan (hay muchos juanes y juanas en el mundo) un poco de buena levadura está cambiando, sin que lo sepan muchos, la cara triste de un planeta necesitado de esperanza.

Recupera lo que te ha sido robado
Dios es tu aliado, Él te respaldará y peleará por ti si permaneces junto a Él y le pides ayuda

Por: Maleni Grider | Fuente: ACC Agencia de Contenido Católico

En el libro de Jim Cymbala, *Fresh Faith*, una de mis últimas lecturas, me pareció trascendente una reflexión sobre la manera en que el enemigo de Dios opera en contra nuestra y de todo aquello que Dios tiene para nosotros.

A Satanás no le interesa quitarnos nuestro dinero, otras posesiones, diversión, proyectos profesionales, fama, etc. De hecho, le conviene ofrecernos todo esto para atraernos y mantenernos ocupados, alejados de los propósitos eternos de nuestro Creador. Dios es omnipotente, omnipresente y omnisciente. El diablo tiene poder limitado, no puede estar en todos los lugares a la vez ni lo sabe todo, por ejemplo, no puede leer nuestro pensamiento. Él se basa en nuestras reacciones y debilidades para atacarnos y someternos. Su arma favorita es la seducción.

El propósito de Dios es darnos vida, y vida en abundancia; sanarnos; apartarnos del pecado y de la muerte; darnos sus bendiciones; cumplir su proyecto en nosotros; en una palabra: santificarnos. El propósito de Satanás es destruir todo eso, y su meta específica es robar, matar y destruir. Es importante notar que primero “roba”. Pero ¿qué es aquello que nos roba?

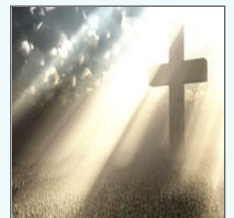
Él quiere robarnos principalmente lo más valioso de nuestra vida: la fe en Dios. Asimismo, quiere robarnos el gozo, la paz, la salvación; quiere robarnos el futuro de nuestros hijos, el vínculo de nuestro matrimonio, el amor en nuestro corazón, la armonía con nuestros semejantes, nuestro llamado en el Reino de Dios, nuestro ministerio, nuestro crecimiento espiritual y nuestra consagración.

Una vez que lo ha logrado, entramos en un desequilibrio emocional, mental y físico, de modo que la muerte espiritual se apodera de nosotros, obedecemos a la carne y cometemos toda clase de pecados. Entonces, si no nos arrepentimos y nos volvemos a Dios en busca de su rescate, comienza la destrucción final: divorcio, hijos en y malos pasos, enfermedad, enemistad con familiares y amigos, aislamiento, desórdenes mentales y una vida completamente miserable, sin esperanza.

Si tu matrimonio está en crisis, si tus hijos se han vuelto imposibles, si en tu familia hay pleitos y divisiones, si tus emociones, reacciones y acciones están fuera de los límites normales, si sientes que el mundo se ha vuelto contra ti y todo se ha salido de control, detente. Haz una pausa, tómalo en serio y date cuenta de que el enemigo ya te ha robado muchas cosas. Alguien tiene que poner un alto, y ese (a) eres tú. Pelea la buena batalla de la fe y levántate en oración contra el maligno.

Dios es tu aliado, Él te respaldará y peleará por ti si permaneces junto a Él y le pides ayuda. Ríndete a él, renuncia a tu carne y sigue al Espíritu. Dios te hará recuperar todo lo que Satanás te ha robado y ha empezado a matar. No permitas que destruya ningún área de tu vida. Tu vida le pertenece a quien te creó. Es la fe lo único que Él te pide: “El justo por la fe vivirá” (Romanos 1:17).

El enemigo lo sabe, por eso ha intentado matar tu fe. Levántate y lucha con todo tu corazón, de rodillas, Dios te devolverá la paz, el gozo, tu familia, tu matrimonio, tu ministerio, y mucho, mucho más.



¡A LA TERCERA, LA VENCIDA! Domingo XVII (A) Javier Leoz

Con este domingo cerramos este periplo de parábolas que, durante estos tres últimos domingos, hemos tenido la oportunidad de recorrer de la mano de Cristo.

Hoy, son “tres en una”. **Dos nos llaman y nos invitan a la alegría:** el tesoro escondido y el mercader de perlas finas. Y, otra más, que –en parte- nos recuerda a la de la cizaña: **tenemos que aprender a convivir en medio de las dificultades.** Ni todo está bien, ni todo está mal. Pero, en el discernimiento, siempre encontraremos razones para ir hacia adelante.

¿Es un tesoro nuestra fe? A veces ¿no os parece que es una bonita canción, con letra antigua, que nos hemos aprendido de memoria y que por lo tanto no nos sugiere nada nuevo? ¿Qué ocurriría si, por ejemplo, Jesús nos dijera que al final del mundo podemos encontrar la razón de nuestra felicidad? ¿Nos pondríamos en marcha como, por ejemplo, lo hizo Santiago Apóstol, Francisco de Javier, Teresa de Calcuta u otros tantos santos conocidos o anónimos?

Sí, amigos. La fe o es un tesoro, o es una hojalata con mucho ruido y pocas nueces. Siempre es bueno recordar aquella famosa parábola del hijo con su padre; *¿Qué oyes al fondo hijo mio? Escucho que viene un carro, padre.* Sí, hijo; y además viene vacío. *¿Cómo sabes padre que, el carro, viene vacío y no cargado? Porque a los carros les ocurre lo que a muchas personas: meten mucho ruido porque están sin contenido.*

La fe, hermanos, nos tiene que llenar. Y, cuando digo llenar, significa que la fe es lo más grande que tenemos en nuestra vida.

Resulta un poco esperpéntico cuando, a diversos artistas, cantantes, pintores, etc, les preguntan sobre su vida. Todos responden con facilidad y prontitud sobre el último libro que leen, sobre sus gustos, familia, aficiones...pero qué raro es leer que alguno afirme: no entiendo mi vida profesional sin Cristo. La fe me ayuda, etc (por supuesto que hay excepciones pero no es la generalidad).

Con nosotros puede ocurrir algo parecido. No nos hacen encuestas (entre otras cosas porque no somos famosos y, por otro lado, nos evitamos el yugo de la fama) pero cuando estamos en el mundo laboral, cuando compartimos mesa y mantel con los amigos, cuando vamos de vacaciones, cuando nos sentamos ante el televisor y escuchamos y vemos programas ofensivos a nuestra Iglesia. ¿Cómo reaccionamos? ¿Con el silencio o con la rabia contenida? ¿Con nuestra oración o con nuestra indiferencia? ¿Con nuestra firmeza en la fe –pues la Iglesia también es perla preciosa- o con la duda sobre ella?

Porque, si leemos detenidamente el Evangelio de este día, no podemos dar por válido todo lo que cae dentro de las redes del mundo. Tenemos que aprender a tener sentido común sobre las cosas. Hemos de saber que, no todo lo que se nos da, es oro molido ni mucho menos.

Para ello os invito en este domingo a que reafirmemos nuestra fe en Jesús. A que le digamos: ¡Eres lo más valioso! ¡Lo demás al lado tuyo es bisutería!

Para ello os invito en el Día del Señor a que nos vean contentos y alegres de ser cristianos. Es decir; que se nos note. Que no nos disfracemos con el mismo traje de luces que visten los incrédulos, los agnósticos o los ateos. Si somos de la peña de Jesús ¿no os parece que hemos de vestir el traje de fiesta?

Que el Señor, en este domingo, nos haga limpiar más aún ese gran tesoro de nuestra fe. Que todos los domingos dejemos esos pequeños caudales que todos tenemos (ocio, deporte, monte, playa, etc) y vayamos en busca del gran tesoro que es Cristo en la Eucaristía, en la oración, en el sacramento de la penitencia o en la caridad con los demás.

ERES MI TESORO, Y ME BASTA

He caminado durante mucho tiempo
Me he detenido en infinidad de escaparates
He comparado precios y calidad
Y, te confieso, Señor,
que como Tú, no hay nada.
Me detuve en una gran hacienda
y, no me aseguraron, ni un solo año más en mi vida
Pero, al acercarme a un trozo de tu tierra
he comprobado, que tu tesoro,
es lo más grande...y me basta.
Ayúdame, Señor, a no esconder el oro del mundo
y, en cambio ,mi Señor,
enséñame a descubrir los que Tú
desde el día de mi Bautismo
metiste en el hondo de mi corazón.
¿Lo harás, Señor?
Mira que, sin quererlo,
Soy demasiado ciego para dar con tu tesoro
Mira que, como humano,
abro los ojos ante el encanto del diamante,
el topacio o la simple plata.
Pero, te confieso Señor,
que, poniéndolo todo encima de mi mesa
no hay tesoro como el tuyo:
¿Quién me dará la vida?
¿Quién me dará un futuro?
¿Quién me dará amor sin medida?
¿Las riquezas o tu rico amor?
¿La apariencia o la fe?
Eres mi tesoro, Señor,
y, te confieso, que me bastas.
Eres mi tesoro, Señor,
y desde que te descubrí
he aprendido, entre otras cosas,
lo siguiente:
merece la pena vender parte de mi tiempo
de mis afanes y de mis jornadas
de mis ilusiones y de mi temperamento
para no perderte en mi trayecto.

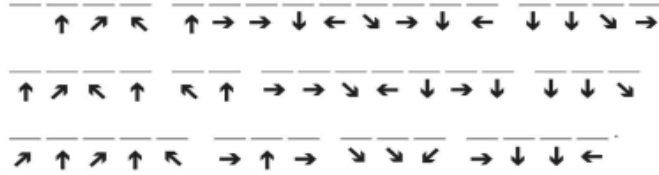
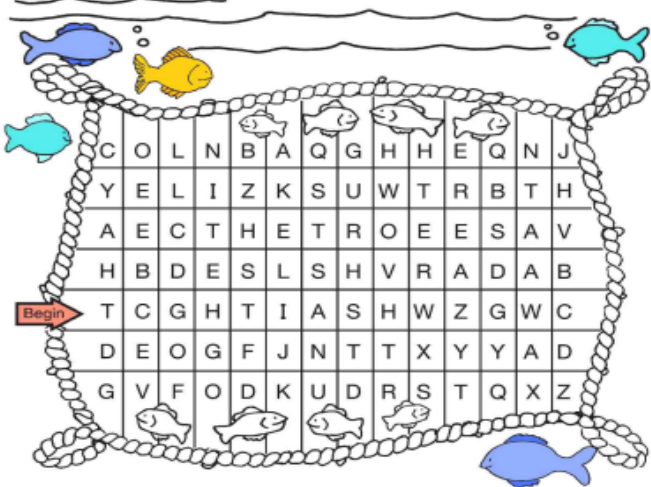
Amén.





"The Parable of the Net."
The kingdom of heaven is like a net
let down in a lake that caught
all kinds of fish.

Move through the letters according to the arrow beneath each blank to fill in the passage below.

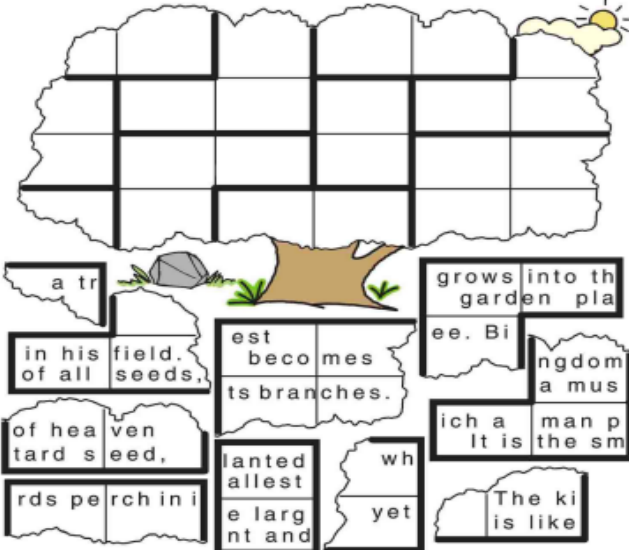


Write the words from the coins on the lines to read "The Parable of the Hidden Treasure."

1	2	3		
4	5	6		
7	8	9		
10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	
31	32	33		

Jesus Teaches With Parables

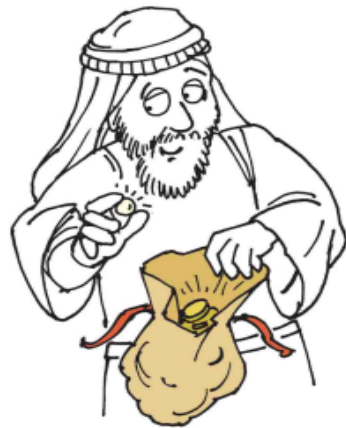
Fit the parts of the tree together to find "The Parable of the Mustard Seed."



Jesus compared a merchant finding a pearl of great value to this. What is it?

Arrange these words in alphabetical order. The third letter of each word will spell the answer.

JOHN	GAME	BIKE	INFO	FROG
CANE	NEAR	MEET	DOGS	HOOD
FADE	ZONE	BOIL	WREN	PAVE



The _____



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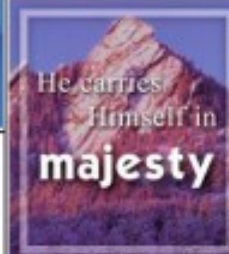
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