

# 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

**REV. MSGR. ROBERT C. CILINSKI, PASTOR**  
**REV. JONATHAN BENNETT, PAROCHIAL VICAR**  
**REV. JORDAN EVANS, 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  
Diane Dellen, Receptionist/Baptism Coordinator  
Caroline Chase, Receptionist/Bulletin Editor  
Ana Gonzalez, Offertory/Mass Intentions  
Charlie Gutierrez, Evening Receptionist  
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.  
Fania Jimenez, Administrative Assistant  
Joyce Kelly, SPRED Coordinator

#### **CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR**

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

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



**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  
8:50 a.m. School Mass on Friday  
during the school year, please  
check the schedule  
9:00 a.m. on Saturday

**ADORATION:** 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday

**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](mailto:bulletin@nativityburke.org).

**WEBMASTER:**  
Emilia Hartline, [webmaster@nativityburke.org](mailto:webmaster@nativityburke.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**  
Mary Castellano, [socialmedia@nativityburke.org](mailto:socialmedia@nativityburke.org)



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



My dear parishioners,

Bishop Burbidge has announced that 50 members of the Arlington Diocese have received special recognition by Pope Leo.

The Benemerenti Medal (*"To one who is well-deserving" in Latin*) is a medal awarded by the Pope to members of the clergy and laity for service to the Catholic Church.

Originally established by Pope Pius VI (1775–1799) as an award for soldiers in the Papal Army, this medal has been awarded since 1925 as a mark of recognition to persons in service of the Catholic Church, both civil and military, lay and clergy alike. These Papal Honors will be formally conferred in a private ceremony by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge at a later date.

Congratulations to Sr. Mary Attilia Todaro, Sr. Donatella Merulla, and Jim McDaniel for receiving these Papal Honors for their dedicated service to the church. We are so proud and grateful for their ministry among us for the faith formation of our children and service to the poor. Please join me in extending our heartfelt appreciation and best wishes to them on this distinction and honor!

Love and Summer Blessings,

*Bob Cilinski*

Msgr. Bob Cilinski  
Pastor

All names are conveyed at the following link:  
<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/2025/08/12/pope-leo-xiv-bestows-papal-honors-on-50-members-of-the-diocese/>

### The Importance of Sunday Mass

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

### A Prayer to Begin the School Year

Blessed are you, Lord God,  
Creator of body and mind and heart;  
you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge  
to guide your people in all their ways.  
At the beginning of this new school year,  
we implore your mercy:  
bless the students, teachers, and staff,  
that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love  
as we learn from you and each other  
how to follow your Son Jesus.  
Expand the horizons of our minds,  
that we may grow in wisdom, understanding, and knowledge;  
deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways;  
and enliven our faith to reach out to those in need.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord God,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever.

Amen



### 'Come and See' - OCIA (formerly RCIA) the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic Faith? Are you missing the Sacrament of the Eucharist or Confirmation? We invite you to join Nativity's OCIA/Order of Christian Initiation of Adults journey of faith.

**The Welcome Class is on Monday, September 15th, 2025,  
at 7:00 pm with our weekly Monday evening sessions  
from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the Fr. Ready Room.**

OCIA forms new disciples, as adults prepare to enter the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 4th, 2026, with reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

Our Monday evening sessions continue weekly until just prior to Pentecost Sunday (May 24, 2026) 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.

OCIA 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 Parish Office at (703) 455-2400, speak to Monsignor Bob Cilinski, or e-mail Linda Loffredo at [lindaloffredo@gmail.com](mailto:lindaloffredo@gmail.com).

Visit our website at <https://nativityburke.org/rcia/> for more information and online registration.

**BACK TO SCHOOL**





Religious  
Education  
Class  
Registration

**NOW  
OPEN!**

#### 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



Classes start  
September 14th!

#### Get in Touch

703-455-0372   nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org   nativityburke.org/re/



**LIFE TEEN | GRADES 9-12**  
**NATIVITY YOUTH MINISTRY**

## Slip'n Slide Kickball

**Sunday, August 24 | 6:30 - 8:30pm**  
**in the Well (Youth Ministry Room)**

Dive into the new school year at our slip'n slide kickball event! Please register for the 2025-2026 year of ministry using our free, online form.



Ancient Order of  
**HIBERNIANS**  
Irish • Catholic • American

#### TRIP TO IRELAND

The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH), the oldest and largest Irish American Catholic fraternal organization, is sponsoring a raffle to win a *"Trip for Two to Ireland,"* 7 Days – 6 Nights, roundtrip airfare, B&B, and rental car included. The AOH will be selling \$10 raffle tickets, after Mass this weekend, August 16 and 17. Also, a large *"Irish Basket of Cheer"* will be given away free to one winner at the Nativity sale.



**Congratulations to previous winners:  
parishioners the Lisi Family**

Proceeds support local AOH Catholic charities and projects including Pro-Life, Catholic Schools, Religious Vocations, and Veterans Programs.

*"I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!" (Luke 12:49)*

Christ's words about setting the earth on fire can inspire married couples to cultivate an enduring love for one another. The fire of love within marriage, when nurtured, grows into a flame that can bring light and warmth to the world. Our hearts should be ablaze with love for our spouse, reflecting God's love through your marital union.

Come join the Nativity Dames! We are the wives, widows, sisters, daughters, nieces 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 (August 5th meeting has been cancelled) will be September 2nd. For more information, please contact RoseAnne Zivich at [brzivich@aim.com](mailto:brzivich@aim.com).*



walking with purpose

***Come as you are.***

**YOU ARE WELCOME HERE**

WWP Bible studies combine personal study with small group discussion, linking our everyday challenges to solutions given through Scripture. If you desire to grow in your faith—in a supportive community of Catholic women—join us!

**New Studies Start September! We meet on Wednesday's at 9:30am OR 7pm and look forward to studying God's Word together!**

To Learn More and Register go to:  
[www.nativityburke.org/wwp](http://www.nativityburke.org/wwp)

[www.walkingwithpurpose.com](http://www.walkingwithpurpose.com)



**ALTAR FLOWERS - Donated by**

Kevin Keane  
In Loving Memory of  
Mary Catherine Keane

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - FALL 2025**

*Nativity Women's Bible study will begin our program year with a Meet & Greet on Friday, September 5th at 10:00 AM in the Father Ready room.*

Our first study, "The Bible and the Church Fathers" (published by the St. Paul Center), will meet Fridays, September 12th - December 12th at 10:00 AM in the Father Ready room.

Future sessions will include the Gospel of John and an apologetics study, "The Mystery of God" (note - January and February sessions will occur via Zoom). All Nativity women are welcome to join us for prayer, study, and fellowship!

Online registration via the Nativity website will close

August 18th (or when at capacity). Questions?

Contact Camille Pryor at wbs@nativityburke.org.

**Diocesan Week of Service:****Love in Action – Service in Community**

*The Diocese of Arlington invites you to take part in a powerful witness of our faith from November 9 through 16 for the first Diocesan Week of Service, a time dedicated to putting Love in Action through Service in Community*

Rooted in the Gospel and inspired by the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy, our parishes and ministries are joining together to bring Christ to our neighbors by serving individuals and families who are most in need—spiritually, emotionally, and physically. From feeding the hungry and visiting the sick, to comforting the sorrowful and praying for the living and the dead, this week calls each of us to live our faith in concrete and compassionate ways.

Want to get involved? Visit:

<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/serviceweek>

Join us in being the hands and heart of Christ to others.

Let's serve with purpose, pray with hope, and grow together in the love of God.

**NATIVITY ROSARY MINISTRY**

Hello Nativity!! Hope everyone had a great summer. The Rosary Ministry is always looking for new people to join. I have heard people say they aren't crafty. Well you don't need to be crafty. Can you count to 10? Can you measure string and cut it? Can you dip the ends of the string in nail polish? These are very important jobs that keep our Rosary makers well supplied to make Rosaries. Of course we always need new people to make Rosaries as well. All Supplies are provided by the Ministry. If you are interested in our ministry we meet once a month and alternate Tuesdays and Sundays every other month. We do this with the hopes of getting the people who can't make it to meetings during the workday.

Our first meeting will be Tuesday, September 16th from 1:00-3:00pm in the Father Ready Room. We will have teachers and supplies at all the meetings. We also have bins in the office full of supplies if you can't make it to the meetings. If you have any questions, contact us at rosaryministry@nativityburke.org.

**MASS INTENTIONS & MASS SCHEDULE**

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

**Monday, August 18**

7:30 am † Dottie Andrews

**Tuesday, August 19**

7:30 am Special Intention for Ian Perez

12:00 pm † Matt Sedgley

**Wednesday, August 20**

7:30 am Special Intention in Thanksgiving

9:30 am † Mark Wurm (First Day of School Mass)

3:00 pm † Rob De Visser (Burke Rehab)

**Thursday, August 21**

7:30 am † Angela Merulla

12:00 pm † Angela Merulla

**Friday, August 22**

7:30 am † Ellen Cavanaugh Campbell

**Saturday, August 23**

9:00 am Special Intention for the Valentine Family

5:00 pm † Rosa Merulla

7:00 pm Parishioners

**Sunday, August 24**

7:00 am † Luis Machicado

9:00 am † George Merulla

11:00 am † Bob Fram

1:00 pm † Rosario U. Javier

5:30 pm † Ashley Jean Stone

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

The Rosary Ministry at Nativity is collecting old and broken Rosaries. Or just any Rosaries you have laying around and don't have use for anymore. We will clean, repair and donate them to people around the world. We cannot accept rosaries that you would want returned to you. This is a proper way to repurpose Rosaries you no longer want to keep.

There will be a box near the rosary board in the back of the church or they can be dropped off in the grey basket at the church office. Please contact rosaryministry@nativityburke.org with any questions or concerns.

**Knights of Columbus - Financial Seminar & Social Insurance & Investments aligned with your faith!**  
**Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 7:00 PM**  
**Nativity School Cafeteria**



An excellent opportunity for young & old to learn and discuss financial planning! Personal Advisor? Long-Term Care? Where are your important records?



For additional information, visit the online bulletin or email dgk7992@nativityburke.org. Please scan the QR code to register ahead of time!



# You're Invited!

## Adult Volunteer Ministers Appreciation Mass & Reception

**Tuesday, August 26, 2025**  
Nativity Catholic Church | 7:00 pm

Msgr. Bob Cilinski, the Priests, Deacon, Sisters, and staff invite all parish volunteers to join us for Mass at 7:00 pm and a reception to follow in the Father Martin Center.

This year's recipients of the Lumen Gentium Award for outstanding ministry and service are: Manuel Ponciano, Charles & Ann Rimkus, and Michael & Mary Schmidtman.



**Please RSVP by Wednesday, August 20**  
by scanning the QR Code or registering online:  
[www.nativityburke.org/volunteer-appreciation/](http://www.nativityburke.org/volunteer-appreciation/)



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

**CONNECT WITH NATIVITY BY  
DOWNLOADING THE FREE  
myParish APP**



Nativity Parishioners can keep up to date with church events and notifications but you can also have access to prayers, readings, and reflections on your phone at all times. This first-of-its-kind app for iOS and Android devices, myParish helps build stronger Catholic communities and better engage the New Evangelization. You can download it for free and just add Nativity Catholic Church, Burke VA in the search field for our parish. If you have any questions please call the parish office.



Marriage Enrichment Ministry

## BACKYARD BARBECUE

August 23<sup>rd</sup> 6-10 PM

Join us for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun  
at Tony & Karen's home!  
Bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert to share.

RSVP BY EMAIL TO ANNA LISA  
[MARRIAGE@NATIVITYBURKE.ORG](mailto:MARRIAGE@NATIVITYBURKE.ORG)

### Are you registered in the Parish?

If you are not receiving mail or emails from the parish, chances are you are not registered. You are free to stop by the Parish Office to fill out a registration form to become a registered member of Nativity Parish or go online to: [nativityburke.org](http://nativityburke.org) and download one. Registration is required to be a Baptismal Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor.



**Retreat for Person's Facing Serious Illness**  
**Hosted by Catholic Charities, Diocese of Arlington**  
**October 3 - 5, San Damiano Retreat Center, White Post**  
**Seeking Rest and Renewal?**

Amid illness and uncertainty, God's love remains a source of comfort and strength. You and your caregiver are warmly invited to a peaceful weekend retreat for person's facing serious illness. This retreat is an opportunity for prayer, reflection, spiritual guidance, and gentle care. Diocesan priests, medical professionals, and volunteers will accompany you with compassion and support. Come find spiritual healing, hope, and rest in God's loving presence.

For questions or to register, email [retreat@ccda.net](mailto:retreat@ccda.net), and a nurse will contact you within a few days. For further information, please call (703) 841-3830. Space is limited.

## Retreat For Persons Facing Serious Illness

"God is with you. Be strong.  
Do not be afraid." Joshua 1:9

Amid illness and uncertainty, God's love remains a steady source of comfort, strength, and renewal. You, and your caregiver, are invited to a peaceful weekend retreat filled with compassionate care, spiritual support, and gentle rest.

Through prayer, inspiring talks, group discussions, and quiet reflection, you'll encounter God's healing presence. A team of priests, medical professionals, and caring volunteers will accompany you, offering both spiritual and emotional support.

Diocesan priests will provide one-on-one spiritual direction, and therapeutic support will be available in a respectful, nurturing environment. Whether you seek peace, hope, or simply a place to rest in God's love — you are welcome here.

**October 3 - 5, 2025**

**San Damiano Retreat Center  
White Post, VA**

**NO COST TO PARTICIPATE**

This retreat is appropriate for

- Individuals facing serious illness and their caregiver
- Men and Women

We are unable to accommodate individuals who are dealing with

- Serious Mental Illness
- Impaired Memory

\*No smoking or vaping on premises\*

**SPACE IS LIMITED!**

Register at [retreat@ccda.net](mailto:retreat@ccda.net)

CONTACT  
[retreat@ccda.net](mailto:retreat@ccda.net)  
ccda.net  
703-841-3830

VOLUNTEER  
[volunteer@ccda.net](mailto:volunteer@ccda.net)



### ECHO Volunteer Opportunities

ECHO currently has some interesting volunteer opportunities!

We are looking for people to lead teams in the areas of Client Engagement, Volunteering, and Donation Management.

We would also like to find one or two volunteers who would be willing to photograph and/or video special events to help build a photographic record for ECHO. Our IT team could use a few more members like someone who could repair watches.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the expectations and job descriptions should contact [volunteercoordinator@echo-inc.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@echo-inc.org) by email.

### Pro-Life Corner:

#### Unborn baby girl saved after rare partial-birth surgery:

"The remarkable surgery on a child only partially born draws attention to the brutality of permissive abortion regimes, where children of the same age can be and are killed for any reason at all. [D]octors at Georgia's Memorial Health University Medical Center conducted a rare surgery on a pre-born baby girl after a 20-week ultrasound revealed a growth beneath her tongue pressing against the back of her throat, threatening her ability to breathe. "We actually just delivered the top half of Charlotte and the bottom half was still inside the uterus," Dr. Bradley Buckler told the press. "That allowed us to leave her attached to the placenta and umbilical cord so that she could continue to get the blood and oxygen that her brain and body need while we worked on getting a breathing tube in and ensuring that we could provide that support for her." [Excerpts from [lifenews.com/blogs/unborn-baby-girl-saved-after-rare-partial-birth-surgery/](https://lifenews.com/blogs/unborn-baby-girl-saved-after-rare-partial-birth-surgery/)].

#### Fantastic Four Movie Calls Unborn Baby a Baby:

"In a surprising twist, Hollywood has produced something Pro-Life... The new Fantastic Four reboot has sparked backlash from anti-Lifers for centering the film on something innocent: a baby. Yes, the latest Marvel blockbuster is pro-baby, pro-family, and pro-motherhood. And that's exactly what makes it so powerful. The film opens with a heartwarming scene—Sue Storm, played by Vanessa Kirby, is pregnant after years of infertility. Her and Reed Richards' joy is deeply moving. Right from the beginning, the story centers on their unborn son—not as a vague "future child," not as a burden or an abstract idea, but as a real baby, worth protecting at all costs. And that's what's driving abortion activists mad. In a culture where preborn children are often dismissed as "clumps of cells" or "just fetuses," Fantastic Four took a different approach. The unborn baby in the film is shown as a human life worth celebrating—and defending... This is the message our culture desperately needs: Life is worth protecting. Not because it's convenient. Not because it fits someone's plans. But because Life, especially in the womb, is sacred... And finally, the line that captures the entire heart of this film: "Mothers are honestly warriors, everyday superheroes. We all know that, because we all come from one." This is the kind of messaging we need from mainstream media. In a world that too often celebrates abortion as empowerment, Fantastic Four tells a different story: that motherhood is noble, babies are valuable, and family is worth fighting for.

" [www.lifenews.com/2025/08/06/fantastic-four-movie-calls-unborn-baby-a-baby/] ]

**The National Catholic Bioethics Center:** Provides education, guidance, and resources to the Church and society to uphold the dignity of the human person in health care and biomedical research, thereby sharing in the ministry of Jesus Christ and his Church. <https://www.ncbcenter.org>.

**Gabriel Project** - Pregnancy Outreach for Expectant Mothers: Offers emotional, spiritual, material, and financial support through a pregnancy helpline and parish-based volunteer "Angel" support. [helpforpregnantwomen.org](https://helpforpregnantwomen.org). 866.444.3553.

**Tepeyac Pro-Life OB/GYN - Faith-based Pro-life OB/GYN:** restoring the human person with modern medicine and healing of Christ. [tepeyacobgyn.com/](https://tepeyacobgyn.com/), 703.273.9440.

### 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](mailto:arlingtondiocese.org/email)



JOIN US FOR THE  
ANNUAL YOUNG ADULT

# BOSCO BBQ FUNDRAISER

RAISING FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE ASSOCIATES  
OF ST. JOHN BOSCO

**SATURDAY**  
6TH SEPTEMBER 2025  
12:30 - 2:30 PM

Private Residence  
Alexandria, VA 22310

Register for free at [ASJB.org/bosco-bbq](http://ASJB.org/bosco-bbq)

**NEW NOON MASS ON MONDAYS**  
Nativity will be offering an additional daily Mass  
every Monday at 12:00 noon starting Monday, September 8th

Catholic Diocese of Arlington  
**2025 Mental Health Day of Prayer**

## *I Am With You Always*

Healing From Trauma and Loneliness

CEUs | Confession | Lunch | Small Group Sharing

**Saturday, August 23rd**  
Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church  
9:15am - 2:15pm

Holy Mass with  
**Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge**  
*Bishop of Arlington | Celebrant & Homilist*

Keynote Luncheon Speaker  
**Dr. Maura McFadden**  
*Clinical Psychologist*

This event is **FREE**  
but please register at:  
[arlingtondiocese.org/mentalhealthdoph](http://arlingtondiocese.org/mentalhealthdoph)



Sponsored By  
Diocese of Arlington, Divine Mercy University &  
the Saint Labre Community



### FREE ULTRASOUND EXAM COUPON

*Pregnant (or think you might be) and considering abortion?*

Please call or text (703) 946-3077

ABC Women's Health  
& Ultrasound Center




**Schedule your free ultrasound today!**

Need a ride? Our mobile unit can come to you or we'll help you come to us.


Visit us at [abcwomenshealth.com](http://abcwomenshealth.com) Se habla español.

This coupon valid for one free ultrasound. Limit one per client.

Share God's love.  
Shape young hearts.  
Volunteer to  
teach catechism



**We need volunteer catechists  
For the grades below:**




Classes start Sunday,  
September 14th

Session	Day	Primary Catechist (Grade)	Assistant Catechist (Grade)
1	Sundays 3:45pm-5:00pm	1, 4, 7	3, Office Assistants
2	Sundays 7:00pm-8:15pm	1	1, 4, 6, 8, Office Assistants
3	Mondays 4:45pm-6:00pm	3, 5, 6	1, 2, 3, 5, 6
4	Mondays 7:00pm-8:15pm	K, 1, 2, RCIC	K, 1, 2, RCIC, 3, 4, 5, 7
5	Tuesdays 4:45pm-6:00pm	1, 2, 5	1, 2, 5
6	Tuesdays 7:00pm-8:15pm	K, 5, 8	6
SPRED Program	2 Saturdays a month. More information upon registration	Different areas.	

**All volunteers working with children need to submit Diocesan paperwork for a background check and complete a Virtus training**

### 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.



Former abortion workers report that when someone prays in front of an abortion facility, the "no-show" rate for abortion appointments can go to as high as 75 percent! Be that someone. *(40 Days for Life)*.  
Contact [rickloffredo@outlook.com](mailto:rickloffredo@outlook.com) to join is!





### Marriage Jubilee Mass 2025

Celebrating A Golden or Silver Wedding Anniversary This Year? If you were married in 1975 or 2000, please join Bishop Michael Burbidge for the 2025 Mass for Jubilarians to be celebrated on Sunday, October 19th at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington, VA. Contact our parish office to register

**no later than October 3rd. For more info, visit**  
<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/event/marriagejubilee/>

### THANK YOU!

The team of girl scouts from troop 52007 would like to thank everyone for their overwhelming generosity to our silver award project. Thanks to the support from the parish we were able to exceed our original goal and deliver over 135 backpacks and toiletry kits in addition to over 125 lunches to the homeless in DC and Northern Virginia.



We would also like to thank the No Hands But Yours Ministry for working with us on this project. They work closely with the homeless year round, providing much needed support. They are always in need of volunteers and donations, you can learn more about how you can help here;

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

# NATIVITY FALL FESTIVAL

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SEPT 27, 2025**

### We're IN NEED of Committee Members

To help plan and organize the fall festival. If you love fun, fellowship, and serving, we would love to have you on board!

E-mail [fallfestival@nativityburke.org](mailto:fallfestival@nativityburke.org) to be involved!

**Want to make a difference in the faith lives of our middle schoolers?**



## Edge Core Team VOLUNTEER



**Info Meeting: Sunday, August 17th  
 4PM in the Fr. Ready Room**

**Youth Ministry is in need of parishioners of all ages to volunteer - young adults, college students, parents, grandparents, etc. We'd love to meet you!**

Contact: Claire Anderson, Coordinator of Youth Ministry  
[canderson@nativityburke.org](mailto:canderson@nativityburke.org)



### A Message from the Creation Care Ministry

Virginia Green Baggers sew reusable grocery bags and distribute them for free at events in Northern Virginia including Creation Care's annual Fair Trade Market at Thanksgiving. Last year they donated over 100 bags to us to package your purchases! All of the bags are unique and are made with fabric scraps donated by friends and family. Their goal is to take as many plastic and paper bags out of circulation as possible—to prevent the buildup of these bags in landfills and in the oceans, to reduce our dependence on petroleum and to reduce pressure on the world's forests.

If you or your group would like to help them cut or sew, or donate fabric, please email [teachhss@aol.com](mailto:teachhss@aol.com). No sewing experience necessary—they are very simple bags and a great starter project! Creation Care looks forward to seeing you at upcoming events such as the Heroes Hike, Parish Fall Festival or the Fair Trade Market! [Nativitycreationcare@gmail.com](mailto:Nativitycreationcare@gmail.com).

**"In God we live and move and have our being"**  
**Women's 159th Arlington Cursillo Retreat**  
**September 18 - 21, 2025**  
**Missionhurst Retreat Center, Arlington, VA**



The Cursillo Weekend is a retreat, but also so much more. It is an opportunity to examine and celebrate yourself, deepen your relationship with Christ, and continue – or begin – your faith journey with the love and support of the Catholic community.

You will:

- Grow spiritually
- Make new friends
- Experience Christ's unlimited love

For more information visit: <https://www.arlingtoncursillo.org/>  
 If you are interested and would like to learn more feel free to contact [lauralaverdiere@msn.com](mailto:lauralaverdiere@msn.com).





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**Classes begin Wednesday, August 20!**  
**For details, contact Shannon Murphy at (703) 455-2300, or [smurph@nativityschool.org](mailto:smurph@nativityschool.org).**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

### Upcoming Open Houses for Prospective Families 2026-2027 School Year

<b>24 Sep</b>	<b>10:00-11:00 AM</b>
<b>22 Oct</b>	<b>9:30 - 10:30 AM</b>
<b>13 Nov</b>	<b>10:00 - 11:00 AM</b>
<b>10 Dec</b>	<b>9:30 - 10:30 AM</b>

\*\*\*\*\*

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

We are in need of substitute teachers with the following minimum qualifications:

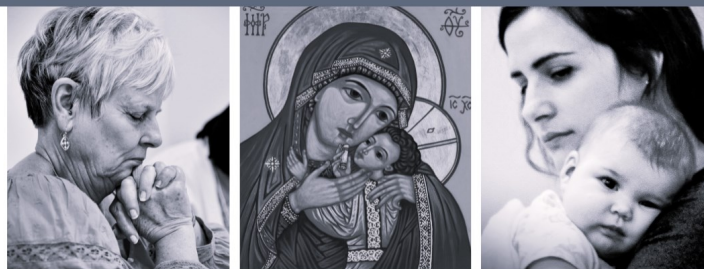
- ⇒ 2-plus years of college
- ⇒ Ability to follow a lesson plan and give effective instructions in the absence of the teacher
- ⇒ Proficiency in maintaining effective classroom management skills
- ⇒ Diocesan-compliant
- ⇒ Successful background check



For more information, email Rich Godwin at [rgodwin@nativityschool.org](mailto:rgodwin@nativityschool.org), or call him at (703) 455-2300, ext.146; or you can contact Shannon Murphy, our Registrar, at (703) 455-2300, or [smurph@nativityschool.org](mailto:smurph@nativityschool.org).

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## A MIGHTY IS HER CALL RETREAT HER CALL IS SACRED



SEPTEMBER 27, 2025  
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*Nursing babies are welcome.*  
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Please email our Deputy Grand Knight, Vince Augelli, at [dgk7992@nativityburke.org](mailto:dgk7992@nativityburke.org) or the Grand Knight, Michael Bender at [gk7992@nativityburke.org](mailto:gk7992@nativityburke.org) with any questions.

**Council Meetings:** 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. First meeting is a business meeting, the second meeting of the month is devoted to faith formation. Rosary 7:15 PM; meeting at 7:30 PM. Fellowship follows. Meet in the Nativity school cafeteria. Note that the August 5 meeting will be held outside wooden benches next to the upper shed due to temporary cafeteria and school closure for cleaning.

### Linktree Universal Sign-up Link:

**Volunteer for an event! Scroll down to view all events.**  
[https://linktr.ee/fr\\_sikora\\_council\\_7992](https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992)

**Catholic Saints of Montreal & Quebec City Canada Pilgrimage:** The Knights of Columbus St. Mary of Sorrows Council #8600's COR/Evangelization Faith Formation Team in partnership with Father Edwin Seh, Parochial Vicar, and Deacon Nick LaDuca of St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church in Fairfax, VA are sponsoring a Men's Pilgrimage – Christ Centered Brotherhood to Canada. This Pilgrimage is designed for any man who desires to grow in his relationship with Jesus through authentic Christian brotherhood. All men are welcome regardless of membership status with the Knights of Columbus. We are all pilgrims, we are all on a journey, at times together, but the pilgrimage is our own. For additional information, please visit JMJ Tours at: <https://www.jmjtours.com/quebec-montreal-2025/>  
**Summer Family Movie Day:** Sunday, Aug 17 from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM - The Council will host a back to school movie and snacks event. We will show a movie in the cafeteria and serve snack food. Four Knights are needed to help with event logistics 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM. See SUG on Linktree.

**Financial Readiness Seminar:** Tuesday, Aug 19, 7-9 PM in the cafeteria. All are invited to better understand the benefits available to Catholics through the Knights of Columbus. This event is open to all parishioners! See SUG on LinkTree or contact Deputy Grand Knight Vince Augelli at [dgk7992@nativityburke.org](mailto:dgk7992@nativityburke.org) for more information.

**Food for Others:** Volunteer for food distribution to the poor, delivered on designated Thursday or Friday evenings.

For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at [sawyerkc7992@verizon.net](mailto:sawyerkc7992@verizon.net). Fridays, contact Br. Matt Stockburger at [mstock\\_w@yahoo.com](mailto:mstock_w@yahoo.com). Deliver food from Giant to the FFO warehouse Tuesday mornings; contact Br. Bob Colella [robert.colella.86@gmail.com](mailto:robert.colella.86@gmail.com).

**Nativity Ushers assist at collections:** Volunteer for your Mass! Volunteer on Link Tree for a database of potential helpers!

**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 [handyknightsofnativity@gmail.com](mailto:handyknightsofnativity@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 [navy8@yahoo.com](mailto:navy8@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 Murray Rupert at [fn2996@vakofc.org](mailto:fn2996@vakofc.org).

## Dios se lo encuentra en las cosas simples de la vida Dios y Personajes Biblia



**Dios está en lo simple, en lo humilde, en lo pequeño. Vivamos en la pequeñez a la que El nos invita.**

**Por: Oscar Schmidt | Fuente: [www.reinadelcielo.org](http://www.reinadelcielo.org)**

Si, Dios es simple. Sus Palabras y Sus mensajes también lo son. Simplicidad y sabiduría hacen de Sus cosas algo redondo, llano, perfecto. Es que al comprender la forma en que El se comunica con nosotros, el alma grita ¡como no me di cuenta antes! Así, a Dios se lo encuentra en las cosas simples de la vida, en aquello que es tan obvio que difícilmente le prestemos atención. Una sonrisa de alguien que no nos conoce, una preocupación que de repente se resuelve del modo más inesperado, un hijo que viene al mundo producto del amor de dos simples personas.

Sin embargo, es detrás de esa simplicidad que se descubre toda la Omnipotencia, toda la Infinita Sabiduría del Señor. Es como abrir una puerta, una simple puerta, y del otro lado encontrar todas las respuestas que nuestra alma pueda necesitar. A veces siento que contemplar y comprender a Dios es como estar suspendido en el espacio, sin traje de astronauta ni nada que se le parezca, y tener al frente nuestro a todas las galaxias y constelaciones, todas las maravillas del universo desplegadas frente a nuestra vista. ¡Ese es Dios! ¿Cómo podemos pretender comprender Su Potencia Creadora, Su Divina Inteligencia? El universo fue creado desde Su Pensamiento, y sin embargo, para El, vale más esta pequeña alma que está aquí indefensa, que toda esa compleja sinfonía de planetas, estrellas, cometas y polvo estelar que danzan silenciosos a nuestro alrededor. Este es el secreto de Su Simplicidad: El resume todo en el amor que tiene por nosotros.

Por eso es que la simplicidad de Dios hace que no se requieran palabras difíciles para comprenderlo, y amarlo. Las almas más elevadas, nuestros queridos santos, llegaron a comprender la simplicidad de Su mensaje en ayuno y oración intensa, más que leyendo libros y tratados sobre teología. Es que en esas cuevas o ermitas donde solían retirarse a meditar y orar, doblegaban la resistencia de la carne y llegaban a abrirse al amor de Jesús, a pleno. En esos momentos, el Espíritu Santo entraba en sus almas dejando una huella imborrable de sabiduría y fortaleza espiritual.

Cuando escuchamos a alguien cuyas palabras realmente nos llegan al corazón, advertimos que más que la complejidad del discurso, lo que nos llega es la pasión y el sentimiento puesto en escena. Un buen predicador sabe que la gente ve mucho más allá de las palabras, por eso las escoge muy simples y directas, y pone toda su energía en transmitir que realmente habla desde el corazón, desde la convicción más profunda. Un corazón simple se expresa en forma directa, humilde, limpia, poniendo los acentos y las pausas donde se requieran.

De la misma forma nos habla Dios. El a veces se introduce en nuestra vida de modo sorpresivo, mientras en otras oportunidades prefiere sutiles mensajes, aquí y allá. Nosotros solemos esperar el gran milagro, a Dios bajando del Cielo y hablándonos en forma directa, o venciendo las leyes naturales para que quede clara Su Divinidad. No, el Señor no nos quiere hacer las cosas tan fáciles, porque en ese caso poco mérito quedaría de nuestra parte. Para que nuestra fe se construya sobre bases firmes y resistentes, Jesús nos habla con el milagro de miles de cosas cotidianas que debemos advertir y valorar, y agradecer.

Dios está en lo simple, en lo humilde, en lo pequeño. Vivamos en la pequeñez a la que El nos invita, nos llama. Como pequeños niños debemos aceptar Su Voluntad, y con amor y docilidad meditaremos Sus Palabras y sus Deseos. Y así, con la alegría sencilla y cristalina de los hijos de Dios, gritaremos con el pecho inflamado:

¡Gloria al Señor, que nos da el sustento y el aire que respiramos!

¡Gloria al Cristo Resucitado que eligió la simpleza de Dos Maderos para darnos la Salvación!

¡Gloria al Padre que nos dio a María, Reina de la sencillez y la simplicidad!

¡Gloria al Espíritu Santo que no habla a través de poderosos sino de sencillas almas que lo acogen sin preguntar!

¡Gloria al Cielo todo, que fue hecho para albergarnos por los siglos de los siglos!



¿Estas celebrando tus bodas de oro o de plata este año? Si te casaste en 1975 o 2000, únete al obispo Michael Burbidge en la Misa de Jubileos Matrimoniales, que se celebrará el domingo 19 de octubre a las 2:30pm en la Catedral de Santo Tomás Moro en Arlington, Virginia. Contacta a tu parroquia para inscribirte no más tardar del 3 de octubre. Para más información, visita [arlingtondiocese.org/marriagejubilee](http://arlingtondiocese.org/marriagejubilee).

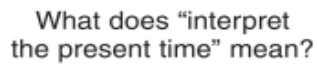
**17 de agosto de 2025 Domingo 200 del Tiempo Ordinario "¿Piensan que vine a dar paz en la tierra? No, les digo, sino más bien a dividir." Lucas 12:51**

A muchos de nosotros nos gusta ir a lo seguro, para no causar conflictos con nuestros amigos y familiares, especialmente cuando se trata de política y religión.

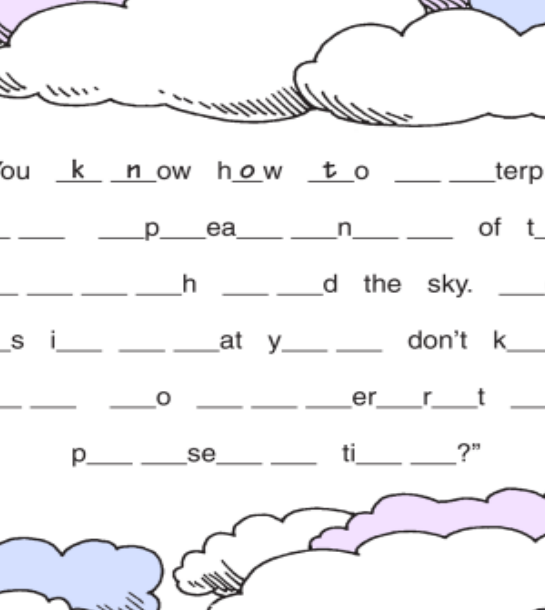
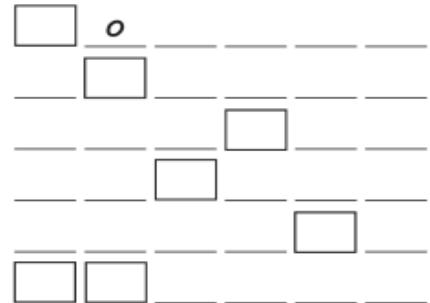
No queremos causar ningún problema. Sin embargo, muchas veces lo hacemos a expensas de la verdad. Jesucristo es la verdad. Demasiadas personas se equivocan porque confían en su limitada capacidad humana de razonamiento y no permiten que la fe en Dios las guíe.

Forme su conciencia: defienda la vida, el matrimonio y la libertad religiosa.





## Interpreting the Times



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h\_\_\_\_\_ o \_\_\_\_\_er\_r\_t \_\_\_\_\_his  
p\_\_\_\_\_se\_\_\_\_\_ ti\_\_\_\_\_?"

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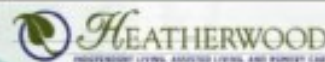
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