

# 21<sup>st</sup> 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 Lioyd, 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  
mmturner@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)

*"Strive to  
enter  
through  
the narrow  
door..."*

*Luke 13:24*

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



***"I come to gather nations of every language"***  
***- Isaiah 66:18***

My dear parishioners,

There is a lot of rhetoric being spread getting our attention of categories to which we assign those around us. We can easily translate categories into modern ones: outsiders and insiders, people we hold in contempt or see as inferior, and those who are powerless vs. those who are in control of others' lives.

As soon as we establish these categories, St. Paul tells us we're asked to suspend all judgement about them because if Christ is all—everything—then our deep unity in Christ is more important than anything that might cause divisions. Our identity in Christ surpasses all our other affiliations.

As pastor of the parish, the code of canon law says that I am responsible for the spiritual and pastoral care of every person living in the parish boundaries. This means every person regardless of their religion, race, language or culture. The church is home to everyone. In the church everyone has a status. It is precisely because we are Catholics (universal) that we extend our love and care to everyone out of respect for human dignity. God's love is offered to everyone.

This love was shown in the early Christian community who practiced love of neighbor and applied it concretely. So thought provoking was this love of neighbor among the early Christians that the pagans were scandalized. From the Emperor Julian the Apostate comes the saying, *"Those Galileans feed not only their own poor, but ours as well."*

In the course of the centuries men and women have kept and lived this heritage entrusted by the Lord. They are the ones whom we call saints. They were not born with a halo over their heads. They gave of themselves to the very end of their lives in a selfless love of neighbor.

Now it is our turn. How will we as Catholics relate to those in our midst who live on the fringe of society, many who are fellow Catholics and parishioners. Love of God and love of neighbor form a unity as a double sided commandment that unites us in Christ.

I wish to thank and encourage each one of you to persevere in spreading the love of Christ. May Mary, Mother of the Nativity pray for us.

Love and Summer Blessings,

*Bob Cilinski*

Msgr. Bob Cilinski  
Pastor



### Testimonial from the Tucker Family in Appalachia Recipients of Nativity's 27th Home

I just want to take a moment to thank everyone who helped us get our new home. There truly aren't enough words to express how grateful we are and how blessed we feel to be living a life we never thought possible. Every morning when I wake up, I still can't believe we're here.

The kids are so happy and are doing their part to keep things in order. Eli loves his room—he and his sister both got to decorate their own rooms, which made them so excited. I used some of the gift cards to get a new lawn mower and weed eater, and Eli has been helping keep the outside looking great. ReaAnna has been pitching in with dishes and even cooking! We haven't done much with the yard yet because it's been so hot, but the grass is starting to come in nicely.

As the new school year approaches, I know things will run even smoother now that everything is in order. Their sisters come over often, and they love having a bed and their own space for their things.

We are beyond thankful for everything that has been done for us. This home has truly changed our lives for the better, and it brings so much peace knowing our kids are taken care of for years to come.

God bless you all!! Debra



### ***'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.





## 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/

### SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTION FOR HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR THE CHRISTIANS IN GAZA - THIS WEEKEND

On behalf of Bishop Burbidge, we will be taking up a special collection this weekend for emergency humanitarian relief for the suffering Christians in Gaza.

Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) have well-established relationships with the Catholic Church in the region to provide medical, psychological, material, and pastoral care.

These resources will be utilized to support the relief efforts for those affected by the ongoing crisis in Gaza.

**Checks can be made out to Nativity Catholic Church, please annotate "Special Collection for Gaza" in the memo line.**

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

### MEN OF NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Brews with Brothers - Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Father Sikora Council #7992 Takes place on Thursday, August 28 from 7:00-9:00 pm*

All men of Nativity Church are welcome! Brews with Brothers is a relaxed setting to discuss any topic and strengthen our Catholic friendships and beliefs. Bring a lawn chair, light snacks and beverages will be provided.

Weather forecast is mostly sunny, with some clouds, high 79 degrees. From the main parking lot, look to the church and the Grassy Knoll is to the left, past the stained-glass windows.

All men of Nativity Church are welcome!

No sign-up or RSVP is required.



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

The Msgr. Bradican Division members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) thank all Nativity parishioners for their great support of last week's "Trip To Ireland" raffle.

You bought more raffle tickets than ever before and your support will go a long way boosting AOH charitable programs. Congratulations to parishioners Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gorham for winning the "Irish Basket of Cheer."

For everyone who bought a ticket, best of luck as we wait until October to draw the winning ticket for this great trip to the Emerald Isle. Let's hope it's you!!!



### Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gorham!

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

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](mailto:rosaryministry@nativityburke.org) with any questions or concerns.

# NATIVITY FALL FESTIVAL

## 27 SEPT 2025

**Come celebrate the beauty of the season with faith, fun, and fellowship!**

📍 Location: Nativity Catholic Church

📅 Date: 27 September 2025

🕒 Time: 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

🌐 Visit us at: <https://nativityburke.org/fall-festival>

🍰 **Cake Walk** 🎃 **Pumpkin Decorating**

🥧 **Pie Baking Contest** 🎵 **Live Entertainment**

🍎 **Fall Treats** 🎯 **Games & Rides**

👯 **Fellowship & Fun for All Ages!**

**ALTAR FLOWERS - Donated by**

John Michel & Bernadette Slee  
In Loving Memory of  
Sharon Michel

**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 25**

7:30 am † Sheri Pridgen Glass

**Tuesday, August 26**

7:30 am † Fred Boos

12:00 pm † Sharon Michel

**Wednesday, August 27**

7:30 am Special Intention for Dind Siano

10:00 am † Gemma Rulkens (Heatherwood)

**Thursday, August 28**

7:30 am † Charlotte and Dick Scales

12:00 pm † Sheila Rice

**Friday, August 29**

7:30 am † Mariano Castro

8:50 am † Jeremy Moremen (School Mass)

**Saturday, August 30**

9:00 am † Thomas Perkins

5:00 pm Special Intention for Thinh Tran

7:00 pm † Viam Carolina Balcazar

**Sunday, August 31**

7:00 am Parishioners

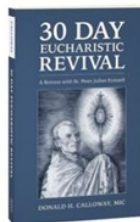
9:00 am † Al Bisset

11:00 am † Michael Chiappinelli

1:00 pm † Marshall Levitan

5:30 pm † Claudia Faherty

**In prayer, let us remember  
the sick and deceased of the parish  
visit [nativityburke.org](https://nativityburke.org) for the Priest Mass Schedule**

**30-Day Eucharistic Retreat  
Save the Date, 30 September!**

Our parish is offering a 5-week course, via Zoom, during the month of October.

Registration is open. Come and see! Join us on a spiritual journey for a 30 Day Eucharistic Retreat developed by Fr. Donald H. Calloway, MIC.

The retreat offers God's people Eucharistic wisdom from the "Apostle of the Eucharist", St. Peter Julian Eymard, and other holy saints. This program is intended to help us (you, your children, and your grandchildren) rediscover and experience a revival of belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

The program begins on 30 September and features 5 Zoom meetings on Tuesday evenings 7:45 to 9:00 PM. The program concludes with prayer and adoration on 5 November.

To register, scan the QR code or visit the Nativity Website: <https://nativityburke.org/33-day-retreat/>. For questions, visit our Nativity webpage or contact the 33 Day Ministry at: [33DayConsecration@nativityburke.org](mailto:33DayConsecration@nativityburke.org).





# NATIVITY CYO SPORTS

## TRACK & FIELD

## CROSS COUNTRY



HAVE FUN AND MAKE FRIENDS AS WE RUN,  
JUMP, AND THROW

REGISTRATION OPENS  
SEPTEMBER 1ST

COACHES AND  
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

### Join CYO Fall Track & Field / Fall Cross Country!

Nativity will be participating in CYO Fall Track & Field / Fall Cross Country! This is open to all 3rd - 8th graders attending Nativity Catholic School or Nativity's Religious Education program.

This is a great opportunity for youth to make friends and grow as part of the community here at Nativity!

For further details, please visit <https://nativityburke.org/cyo-track/> or contact [cyosports@nativityburke.org](mailto:cyosports@nativityburke.org).

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.

### Marriage Workshop: Strengthening Your Love Marriage Renewal Workshop

A Christ-centered weekend designed to offer practical tools that can help foster effective communication and emotional closeness in your marriage. The expert speaker team includes Catholic psychologists, therapists, and priests who will offer their expertise and experience, plus they will be on hand the entire weekend to offer individual consultation, upon request. This enriching experience will be held at Our Lady of Bethesda in Bethesda, MD on Oct 11-12. Please note: This is NOT an overnight program. Cost: \$650 per couple (early-bird pricing may be available.)

Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center is located at 7007 Bradley Blvd, Bethesda, MD 20817. Registration is required and Seating is limited. See our website for more details about the program and links to register: [www.ourladyofbethesda.org](http://www.ourladyofbethesda.org).

### LOVE TO SING? JOIN THE YOUTH & CHILDREN'S CHOIRS!

Do you have a 7th-12th grade student interested in joining the Youth Choir? We will start our rehearsals again this September, but registration starts now! We will rehearse every other Monday evening from 7:00-8:30pm in the church. See the website or contact Sara Prince, [sprince@nativityburke.org](mailto:sprince@nativityburke.org) for more information.

Do you have a 3rd-6th grade who likes to sing? Sign up for Children's Choir! We will start our rehearsals this September, but registration starts now! We will rehearse every other Monday evening from 7:00-8:00pm in the church. See the website or contact Sara Prince, [sprince@nativityburke.org](mailto:sprince@nativityburke.org) for more information.

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 will be held on Tuesday, September 2nd.*

*For more information, please contact  
RoseAnne Zivich at [brzivich@aim.com](mailto:brzivich@aim.com).*

### Religious Education Special Announcement

**Join Us in Congratulating Our Sisters!**  
**We rejoice as Sister Mary Attilia and Sister Donatella are honored by Pope Leo XIV and will receive the Benemerenti Medal for their faithful service to the Church. Your ministry blesses and inspires us all!**



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

Session	Day	Primary Catechist (Grade)	Assistant Catechist (Grade)
1	Sundays 3:45pm-5:00pm	1, 4	3, 5, Office Assistants
2	Sundays 7:00pm-8:15pm	1	1, 4, 6, 8, Office Assistants
3	Mondays 4:45pm-6:00pm	3, 5	1, 2, 3, 5, 6
4	Mondays 7:00pm-8:15pm	K, 1, 2, RCIC	K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, RCIC
5	Tuesdays 4:45pm-6:00pm	1, 5	2, 5
6	Tuesdays 7:00pm-8:15pm	K, 5	7, 8
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**



**Student Registration closes on September 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Classes start Sunday, September 14th**



**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.

**NEW NOON MASS ON MONDAYS**

Nativity will be offering an additional daily Mass every Monday at 12:00 noon starting Monday, September 8th

**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).

**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 us!

**Marriage Enrichment Ministry**  
**6th Annual**  
**POTLUCK**  
*Gathering*

You're invited to our potluck gathering, where the table will be laden with a scrumptious spread. Bring a dish, appetizer, or dessert to share. Everyone pays for their own drinks.



**September 13 | 6:30-8:30 PM**

Bunnyman Brewing

5583 Guinea Rd, Fairfax, VA 22032

Register here: <https://nativityburke.org/heroes-hike/>



For more information, contact Anna Lisa at 571-208-2821 or [marriage@nativityburke.org](mailto:marriage@nativityburke.org)



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)



**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)



Nativity is a tithing community  
Giving back a portion of God's blessings in gratitude  
"Each day with one heart—we are the hands of Jesus"

### Birthday Celebration for the Blessed Virgin Mary

On Saturday, September 6, 2025 the Legion of Mary will host a celebration for Mary's Nativity (feast day Sept. 8) with a reception in the Father Ready Room following the 9:00 am Mass. Please join your fellow parishioners in this tribute to the "Mother of Jesus".

### Pro-Life Corner:

#### Defending Life – U.S. pro-life leaders gather in Arlington as Virginia prepares for battle over constitutional amendment:

As mentioned in the August 14-27 Catholic Herald by Jim Hale, "As Virginia takes center stage in the national abortion debate, pro-life leaders from across the country met in Arlington for a two-day conference... 'Dear pro-life leaders and brothers and sisters in Christ, you see daily the wounds of those you serve, the wounds of those who participated in abortion,' said Bishop Burbidge... '(You see) the wounds of those who are unable any longer to see themselves as God's beloved son and daughter, the wounds of those who feel lost, forgotten and abandoned, and what confidence the Lord has in them, for he sends you to them to be messengers and hope and instruments of his healing and saving love.'"

"[Judy] Haag, who has been a pro-life activist for more than 50 years, agreed that the political battles seem overwhelming at times. 'People don't understand what they're voting for,' she said. 'They don't understand what really is happening and I just think we really need to get on our knees...'

"The abortion industry is on the move waging war on state constitutions," said Amy McInerney, diocesan director of the Respect Life office. 'We are in the crosshairs because bordering states to the South have passed protective laws for women and children, and the abortion industry wants Virginia to be the abortion destination of the South.'"

"With all 100 seats in the House of Delegates up for reelection Nov. 4, the stakes are high. 'The legislators that Virginia voters elect this November will decide whether an extreme and deadly proposal to allow virtually unlimited abortion at any stage of pregnancy will become a November 2026 ballot question,' said Jeff Caruso, executive director of the Virginia Catholic Conference. 'Through conscience formation, prayer and fasting, we must prepare our minds and hearts to engage in this year's critical voting decisions'..."

"When it comes to voting, McInerney emphasized that the candidate's position on abortion should be viewed through Catholic teaching... According to the USCCB, abortion remains the "preeminent" political priority for Catholics. 'There are many fires burning that are important and that Catholics need to think about when they vote for a candidate,' said McInerney. 'But the hottest fire we have to put out now is abortion.'"

#### A Woman's Choice for Life, Morality & Justice – Advocates for Life Dinner: Sunday, September 21, 2025. Join us for dinner and guest speaker, Amy McInerney, Director, Respect Life Diocese of Arlington, in Great Falls, 5-9pm. RSVP NLT Sept 5<sup>th</sup> at 571.599.2002. "Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; Deliver them from the hand of the wicked." Ps 82:3-4.

**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>.



### 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)



### 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/>

### 8th Grade Testing Required for Placement in Four Catholic High Schools in the Diocese of Arlington

8th Grade students attending public schools or non-Catholic private schools who are interested in attending Catholic High Schools in the Diocese of Arlington need to take the High School Placement Test (HSPT). The date, time and locations are listed below.

#### TEST DATE:

Saturday, November 15, 2025

#### TEST SITES:

Bishop Ireton High School, Alexandria  
 Bishop O'Connell High School, Arlington  
 St. Paul VI High School, Chantilly  
 Saint John Paul the Great High School, Dumfries

#### TEST TIME:

8:30 AM - 12:00 Noon

#### FEE:

Contact the High School

#### ELIGIBLE STUDENTS:

Any 8th grader attending public school, non-Catholic private schools or Catholic schools outside the Arlington Diocese.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

Students must register on-line on the high school's website. The registration must be completed on-line by the high school's registration deadline. The testing fee should accompany the registration.



### A Message from the Creation Care Ministry

The Season of Creation is an ecumenical initiative, celebrated from September 1-October 4. The theme of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, September 1, was chosen by Pope Francis-- "*Seeds of Peace and Hope*". In his message for this day, Pope Leo writes, "...we seem incapable of recognizing that the destruction of nature does not affect everyone in the same way. When justice and peace are trampled underfoot, those who are most hurt are the poor, the marginalized and the excluded. The suffering of indigenous communities is emblematic in this regard.

Environmental justice – implicitly proclaimed by the prophets – can no longer be regarded as an abstract concept or a distant goal. It is an urgent need that involves much more than simply protecting the environment. For it is a matter of justice – social, economic and human. For believers it is also a duty born of faith, since the universe reflects the face of Jesus Christ, in whom all things were created and redeemed. In a world where the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters are the first to suffer the devastating effects of climate change, deforestation and pollution, care for creation becomes an expression of our faith and humanity.

Now is the time to follow words with deeds. 'Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience' (Laudato Si', 217). By working with love and perseverance, we can sow many seeds of justice and thus contribute to the growth of peace and the renewal of hope... The Encyclical Laudato Si' has now guided the Catholic Church and many people of good will for ten years. May it continue to inspire us and may integral ecology be increasingly accepted as the right path to follow. In this way, seeds of hope will multiply, to be 'tilled and kept' by the grace of our great and unfailing Hope, who is the risen Christ."

For Pope Leo's complete message: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/creation/documents/20250630-messaggio-giornata-curacreato.html>

### Employment Opportunities in the Diocese

Find the perfect Opportunity at:

<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/human-resources/employment-opportunities/>

*"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).

### 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



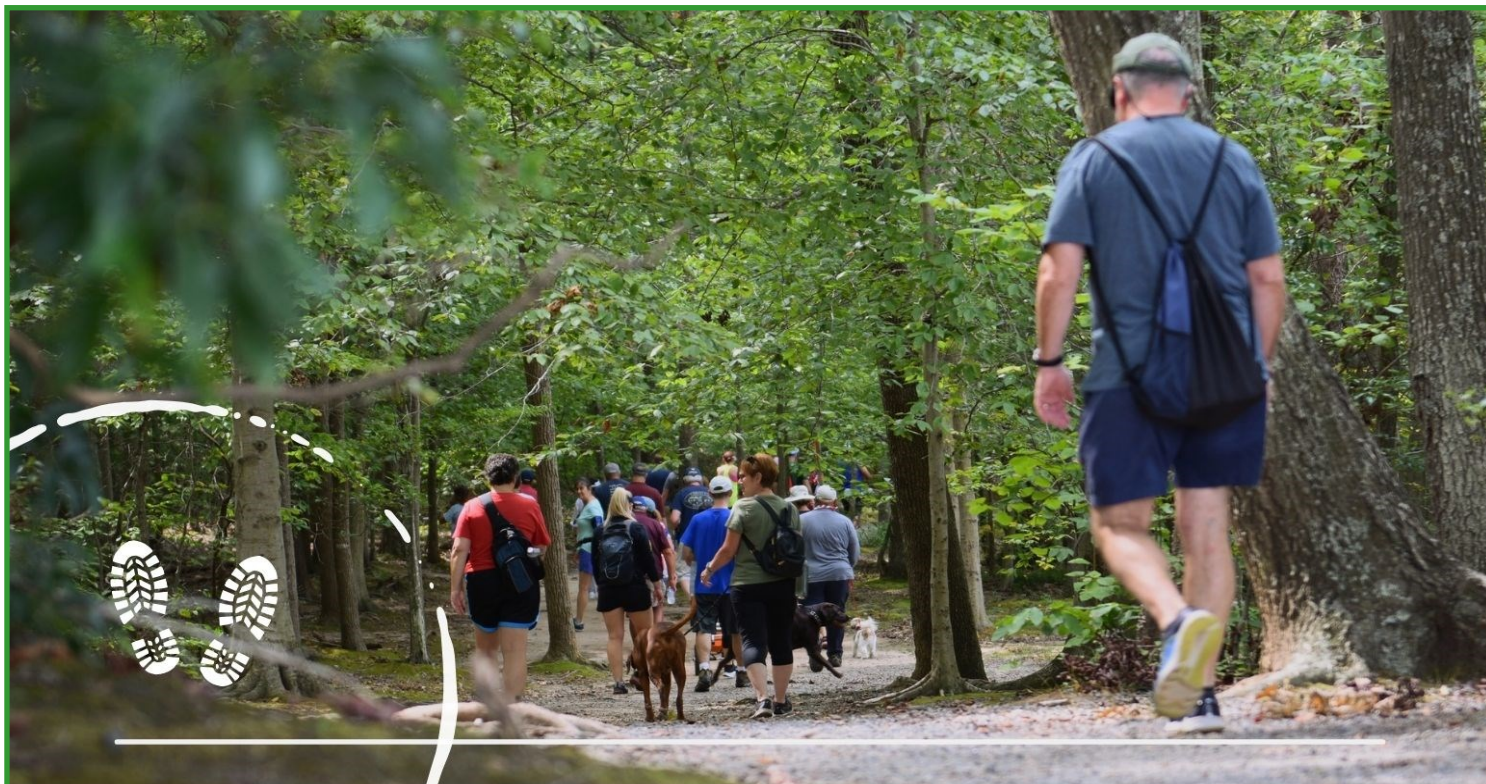
**Schedule your free ultrasound today!**

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.





Marriage Enrichment Ministry & Creation Care Ministry  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual

# HEROES HIKE

with Msgr. Bob Cilinski

September 13th | 10:30 am | Heroes Hike at Lake Mercer

Adults of the parish are invited.

We will meet at South Run Park by the Field House. When entering the park, stay on Reservation Drive to the very end and follow the signs for the "Field House" (South Run Field House, 7550 Reservation Drive). We will meet at the end of the parking lot. There is no cost to enter the park or for parking. We will walk around the lake clockwise, on the northern part of the lake, and then do a group picture at the dam. The hike will be about 5.2 miles.

Don't forget your reusable water bottle.

Please register online: [www.nativityburke.org/heroes-hike/](http://www.nativityburke.org/heroes-hike/)

Contact Anna Lisa Licud:

[marriage@nativityburke.org](mailto:marriage@nativityburke.org) | (571) 208-2821







## NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence  
nativityschool.org



Nativity School is accepting applications for  
1st grade for this 2025-26 School Year  
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

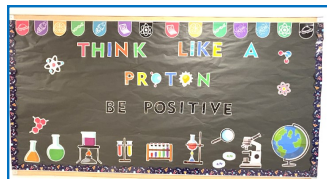
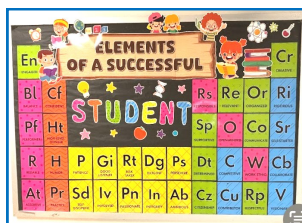
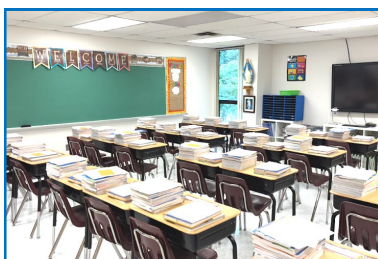
24 Sep	10:00-11:00 AM
22 Oct	9:30 - 10:30 AM
13 Nov	10:00 - 11:00 AM
10 Dec	9:30 - 10:30 AM

\*\*\*\*\*

## Nativity School ...

### All Prepared. Welcome Back, Families!

It was back to school this week with our *“Family First Day of School”* on Wednesday. This special half day allowed us to first celebrate together as a community before beginning our academic rigor. We kicked off the new school year with a New Family Orientation, Sneak-a-Peek, Mass and STEM Celebration, all followed up by our Hot Dogs & PTO Popsicle Social. The school building looked beautiful, our classrooms were decorated, and our halls were ready to welcome our students.



\*\*\*\*\*

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.



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

**Food for Others:** Volunteer for food distribution to the poor, delivered on designated Thursday or Friday evenings. For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at [sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net](mailto:sawyerkoc7992@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.coella.86@gmail.com](mailto:robert.coella.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 [handyknightsfnativity@gmail.com](mailto:handyknightsfnativity@gmail.com).

**The Fraternal Committee:** Brothers helping brothers in need of assistance. Brothers and their families (living and deceased) in need of a helping hand, contact Br. John Landy at [navyy8@yahoo.com](mailto:navyy8@yahoo.com).

**3rd Degree Knights - Grow with 4th Degree:** participate in patriotic activities that promote Catholic citizenship. 4th Degree Assembly meets the second Tuesday of the month in the Nativity school cafeteria: 7:30 PM rosary, 7:45 PM business meeting followed by fellowship. If you are interested, please contact our Faithful Navigator Murray Rupert at [fn2996@vakofc.org](mailto:fn2996@vakofc.org).

**Name Tags:** If you have not received your name tag, email our Warden, Robert Myers, at [warden7992@nativityburke.org](mailto:warden7992@nativityburke.org).

### ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Book is open. This is a thoughtful way to honor a loved one, living or deceased. If you are interested, please stop by the parish office to sign up. You can also go online and reserve flowers on our website at: <https://nativityburke.org/altar-flowers/>.





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)

# Online Series!

**BENEDICTINE BYTES  
PRESENTS:**

## PROLOGUE IN A NUTSHELL

The Prologue is the beginning of the Rule of Saint Benedict


**1st and 3rd Wednesdays**  
**Beginning September 3, 2025**  
**7:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

*"Listen, My Daughter, to One Who Loves You"*

Contact Sister Kathy Persson, OSB  
Saint Benedict Monastery  
9535 Linton Hall Road  
Bristow, VA 20136  
[vocations@osbva.org](mailto:vocations@osbva.org)  
571.428.2511

# PILGRIMAGE of HOPE

Masses offered for those who are suffering.  
All are welcome to join in prayer for those in need.



**The Cathedral of Saint Thomas More\***  
3901 Cathedral Lane, Arlington 22203  
**Wed. June 4 | 6:30pm**

**St. Paul Mission, Hague**  
Fri. June 27 | 8:30am

**Basilica of St. Mary, Alexandria**  
Sat. July 19 | 8:30am

**Our Lady of Hope, Potomac Falls**  
Sat. August 16 | 8:30am

**St. John Bosco, Woodstock**  
Mon. August 25 | 6:00pm

**Corpus Christi, Aldie**  
Sat. Sept. 27 | 8:30am

**St. John the Evangelist, Warrenton**  
Sat. October 18 | 8:30am

**St. Patrick, Fredericksburg**  
Tues. October 28 | 9:00am

\*Bilingual mass in Spanish. Reception to follow/fellowship and refreshments following mass

REGISTER TODAY TO SECURE YOUR SPOT!



## A MIGHTY IS HER CALL RETREAT

## HER CALL IS SACRED



**SEPTEMBER 27, 2025**  
**9:15AM - 4:15PM**  
**FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA**

*Nursing babies are welcome.*  
**WWW.MIGHTYISHERCALL.COM**



**NO HANDS BUT YOURS MINISTRY**

*No Hands But Yours* is 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 DC and northern VA every Sunday morning, rain or shine.

We also have weekly trips into designated areas bringing Panera bread donations along with help from local food banks. Through the blessings of God, we have grown through our Nativity community and continue to do so. For more details visit the Nativity Parish website at <https://nativityburke.org/service/no-hands-but-yours/>. Families are also welcomed! If you have interest in learning more and would like to participate in daily/Sunday runs, please contact John Rubino at: [john.albert.rubino@gmail.com](mailto:john.albert.rubino@gmail.com).

**"I PLACE MUCH OF MY HOPE FOR THE FUTURE IN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER" - Pope Saint John Paul II**

Your honeymoon was a special time. Wherever you went, the things you saw and did were secondary. Just being together was most important. The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend has the same focus. The weekend centers entirely on your relationship. It is a positive, simple common sense, private experience between you and your spouse, that revitalizes marriage by helping you to see again those loving qualities in each other that you may be taking for granted. Upcoming experiences are:

September 12-14, 2025 - Richmond VA  
October 24-26, 2025 - Jessup MD  
November 7-9, 2025 - Rehoboth Beach DE

For more info call 757-690-1369 or to register visit [WWME.org](http://WWME.org).

*"For behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last." LUKE 13:30*

Our cultural standards are different from God's standards. We often rank people by what they have, how powerful they are, or how successful they are. Jesus reminds us that God will not judge us by the same earthly standards. When God asks you, "What have you done with the gifts I have given you?"

How will you respond?

**Follow Bishop Burbidge on X!**

Bishop Burbidge has over 25,000 followers on Twitter! His daily reflections and posts are popular and insightful. Follow him @BishopBurbidge.

**Parish App Feature-of-the-Week**

Inspiration  
Daily

- Thoughts on Catholic life
- Informative and inspirational
- Simple insight for living a deeper faith everyday

Learn more or download our parish app at [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com)

\*Available on Apple and Android Phones.

**CALLING ALL THIRD DEGREE KNIGHTS!  
COMPLETE YOUR FAITH JOURNEY.  
STEP UP TO THE PATRIOTIC  
FOURTH DEGREE. SERVICE TO GOD  
AND COUNTRY AS A SIR KNIGHT.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT  
FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR MURRAY  
RUPERT AT [MRUPERT800@AOL.COM](mailto:MRUPERT800@AOL.COM)**

**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. Questions: contact John French at [john.french@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:john.french@arlingtondiocese.org) or (703) 841-3819.



Mary's Shelter

20th anniversary

Before  
I was  
born,  
the Lord  
called me;  
from my  
mother's  
womb He  
has spoken  
my name.

—Isaiah 49:1

[MARYSSHETERVA.ORG](http://MARYSSHETERVA.ORG)

**15TH ANNUAL SOIRÉE AND FUNDRAISER**  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2025, 6-10PM • FREDERICKSBURG EXPO CENTER

RSVP

Online



RSVP

BY SEPT 11



DONATE

Online

1601 PRINCESS ANNE ST., FRED., VA 22401 • 540-374-3407 • [SOIREE@MARYSSHETERVA.ORG](mailto:SOIREE@MARYSSHETERVA.ORG)

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**SAINT JOHN PAUL THE GREAT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
 Invites you to a fun day of golf, friends, and food at the only publicly accessible  
 Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Club



**TO REGISTER VISIT: [onecau.se/johnpaulgolf](https://onecau.se/johnpaulgolf)**

Individual \$175 until August 15/\$200 afterwards

Foursome \$700 until August 15th/\$800 afterwards

**Corporate and Family Sponsorships available**

Consider sponsoring a priest or religious

Box lunch and Sit Down Awards dinner with buffet included

Awards Dinner following-tickets available for dinner only



[www.jpthegreat.org](http://www.jpthegreat.org) • 17700 Dominican Drive • Potomac Shores, VA 22026 703.445.0300

## Nativity Catholic Church



### EMAIL & TEXT SCAM ALERT

Nativity parishioners, please be aware of email scammers posing as Nativity priests. If you receive an email from any Nativity clergy urgently asking you for favors, money, gift cards or if you have a "moment", this is a scam. Please ignore and block the sender.

If you have any questions, please contact the Nativity Parish office: (703) 455-2400

### Are you registered in the Parish?

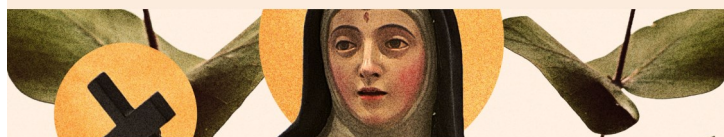
If you are not receiving mail or emails from the parish, chances are you are not registered. You are free to stop by the Parish Office to fill out a registration form to become a registered member of Nativity Parish or go online to: [nativityburke.org](http://nativityburke.org) and download one. Registration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

### Mass in Observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October 4<sup>th</sup> | 4:30pm

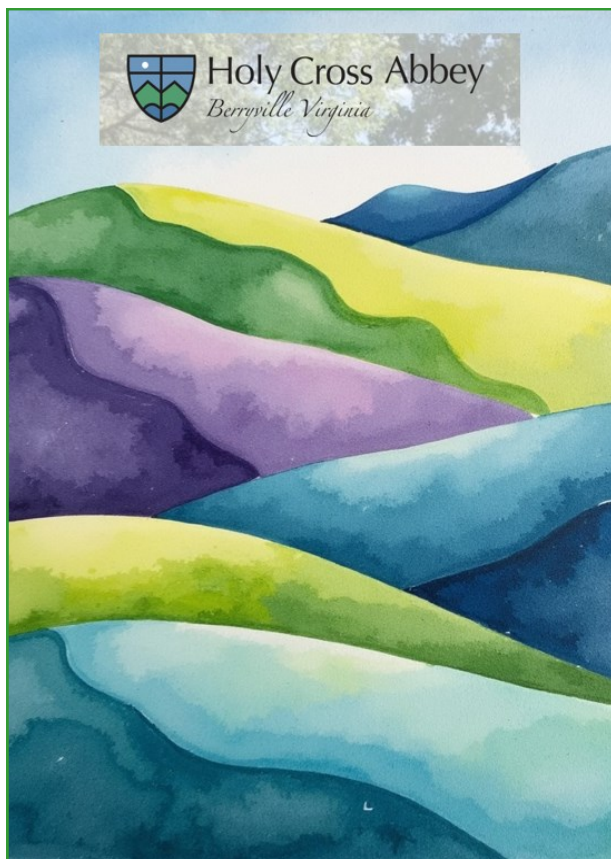
Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
 Bishop of Arlington | Celebrant and Homilist



St. Rita of Cascia, Patroness of Domestic Violence Victims, Pray for Us





### Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation

Saturday, September 27, 2025 | Noon–3 PM

Holy Cross Abbey, Berryville, VA



Join parishioners from across the Arlington Diocese for a peaceful and prayerful walk through the sacred grounds of Holy Cross Abbey. Treat yourself to this special Jubilee event.

#### Experience the Spirit of Pilgrimage

- Hear from Cistercian monks about their eco-friendly land stewardship
- Learn about the Cool Spring Natural Cemetery that they maintain
- Reflect on God's creation during a mindful 1 mile walk to the chapel
- Join the monks for their 2 p.m. prayer in the chapel
- Visit with other pilgrims on the 1 mile walk back to the pavilion

To see the schedule and reserve your place at this limited capacity venue, visit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0448AAA82FAAF49-57786714-jubilee#/>

**Transportation Available** If there is enough interest, we will reserve a coach bus leaving from Reston with stops in Leesburg and Purcellville. See RSVP form.

**Location:** Holy Cross Abbey, 901 Cool Spring Ln, Berryville, VA

Meet at the pavilion just beyond the driveway entrance.

Sponsored by the Care for Creation Network of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington



*for the*

## *10<sup>th</sup> Annual Mass Honoring Military and First Responders*

*Sunday, September 14, 2025, 11:00 AM*

*St. Leo the Great Catholic Church*

*3700 Blenheim Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22030*

*Main Celebrant & Homilist:*

*Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington*



# We understand that healing after abortion can be a complex & deeply personal journey

*If you are seeking support  
and insight, we invite you  
to join our virtual drop-in  
sessions in a safe space  
with no commitments, no  
homework, no pressure...*

## Upcoming 1 hour Sessions via Zoom:

- Thursday, July 24 @ 5 pm
- Thursday, August 14 @ 5 pm
- Thursday, September 11 @ 5 pm

*Dates and Times Don't Work? Let Us Know.  
Additional Sessions Can Be Scheduled To  
Meet Your Needs.*



**Interested?  
Contact Us Today!**

**☎ 703-841-2504    ✉ [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org)**



# IN PERSON SPEED DATING

St. Timothy Catholic Church



Bl. Karl and Empress Zita

October 25, 2025



St. Louis and Zelig Martin

7PM

School Cafeteria & Gym  
Open to Ages 20 - 39



Gentlemen  
Sign-Up

Dress Code  
Business Casual

RSVP-ONLY

REGISTRATION CLOSES  
October 11, 2025



Ladies  
Sign-Up



Questions? Issues?

Contact [jtureaud@protonmail.com](mailto:jtureaud@protonmail.com)



**XXI Domingo del tiempo ordinario, Ciclo C.****Entrar por la puerta estrecha****Autor: P. Raniero Cantalamessa, ofmcap****Sitio Web: P. Raniero Cantalamessa, ofmcap****Isaías 66, 18-21;****Hebreos 12, 5-7.11-13;****Lucas 13, 22-30****Entrar por la puerta estrecha**

Existe un interrogante que siempre ha agobiado a los creyentes: ¿son muchos o pocos los que se salvan? En ciertas épocas, este problema se hizo tan agudo que sumergió a algunas personas en una angustia terrible. El Evangelio de este domingo nos informa de que un día se planteó a Jesús este problema: «Mientras caminaba hacia Jerusalén, uno le dijo: "Señor, ¿son pocos los que se salvan?"». La pregunta, como se ve, trata sobre el número, sobre cuántos se salvan: ¿muchos o pocos? Jesús, en su respuesta, traslada el centro de atención de cuántos se salvan a cómo salvarse, esto es, entrando «por la puerta estrecha».

Es la misma actitud que observamos respecto al retorno final de Cristo. Los discípulos preguntan cuándo sucederá el regreso del Hijo del hombre, y Jesús responde indicando cómo prepararse para esa venida, qué hacer en la espera (Mt 24, 3-4). Esta forma de actuar de Jesús no es extraña o descortés. Sencillamente es la manera de obrar de alguien que quiere educar a sus discípulos para que pasen del plano de la curiosidad al de la verdadera sabiduría; de las cuestiones ociosas que apasionan a la gente a los verdaderos problemas que importan en la vida.

En este punto ya podemos entender lo absurdo de aquellos que, como los Testigos de Jehová, creen saber hasta el número preciso de los salvados: ciento cuarenta y cuatro mil. Este número, que recurre en el Apocalipsis, tiene un valor puramente simbólico (12 al cuadrado, el número de las tribus de Israel, multiplicado por mil) y se explica inmediatamente con la expresión que le sigue: «una muchedumbre inmensa que nadie podría contar» (Ap 7, 4.9).

Además, si ese fuera de verdad el número de los salvados, entonces ya podemos cerrar la tienda, nosotros y ellos. En la puerta del paraíso debe estar colgado, desde hace tiempo, como en la entrada de los aparcamientos, el cartel de «Completo».

Por lo tanto, si a Jesús no le interesa tanto revelarnos el número de los salvados como el modo de salvarse, veamos qué nos dice al respecto. Dos cosas sustancialmente: una negativa, una positiva; primero, lo que no es necesario, después lo que sí lo es para salvarse. No es necesario, o en cualquier caso no basta, el hecho de pertenecer a un determinado pueblo, a una determinada raza, tradición o institución, aunque fuera el pueblo elegido del que proviene el Salvador. Lo que sitúa en el

camino de La salvación no es un cierto título de propiedad («Hemos comido y bebido en tu presencia...»), sino una decisión personal seguida de una coherente conducta de vida. Esto está más claro aún en el texto de Mateo, que contrapone dos caminos y dos entradas, una estrecha y otra ancha (Mateo 7, 13-14).

¿Por qué a estos dos caminos se les llama respectivamente el camino «ancho» y el «estrecho»? ¿Es tal vez el camino del mal siempre fácil y agradable de recorrer y el camino del bien siempre duro y fatigoso? Aquí hay que estar atentos para no caer en la frecuente tentación de creer que todo les va magníficamente bien, aquí abajo, a los malvados, y sin embargo todo les va siempre mal a los buenos. El camino de los impíos es ancho, sí, pero sólo al principio; a medida que se adentran en él, se hace estrecho y amargo. Y en todo caso es estrechísimo al final, porque se llega a un callejón sin salida. El disfrute que en este camino se experimenta tiene como característica que disminuye a medida que se prueba, hasta generar náusea y tristeza. Ello se ve en ciertos tipos de ebriedades, como la droga, el alcohol, el sexo. Se necesita una dosis o un estímulo cada vez mayor para lograr un placer de la misma intensidad. Hasta que el organismo ya no responde y llega la ruina, frecuentemente también física. El camino de los justos en cambio es estrecho al comienzo, cuando se emprende, pero después se transforma en una vía espaciosa, porque en ella se encuentra esperanza, alegría y paz en el corazón.



¿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/marriagejubleee](http://arlingtondiocese.org/marriagejubleee).

**24 de agosto de 2025 Domingo 210  
del Tiempo Ordinario "Y he aquí, hay últimos que  
serán primeros, y hay primeros que serán últimos."  
LUCAS 13:30**

Nuestros estándares culturales son diferentes a los estándares de Dios. A menudo clasificamos a las personas por lo que tienen, por o por qué tan poderosos o exitosos son. Jesús nos recuerda que Dios no nos juzgara usando el mismo estándar terrenal. Cuando Dios te pregunte, ¿Qué has hecho con los dones que yo te di? ¿Cómo le responderás?



# Clases de inglés y Ciudadanía



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Las clases presenciales de Inglés, Ciudadanía, Escritura, y Conversación del ciclo de otoño comienzan en septiembre 23, 2025.

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## ■ Fecha de inscripción:

- Septiembre martes 16 y jueves 18 entre 7:00 y 8:00 PM en la Iglesia St. Mark.
- Se tomará un examen para ayudar a seleccionar el nivel más conveniente para los estudiantes.
- <https://tinyurl.com/22fk78ms>



## Clases:

Martes y jueves, de septiembre 23 a diciembre 11.

Las clases de inglés se dictarán de 8:00 PM a 9:30 PM

Las clases de ciudadanía, escritura y conversación se dictarán de 7:00 PM a 7:45 PM

## ■ Donde:

Iglesia St. Mark, Centro de Formación Cristiana, Segundo piso.

## ■ Costo por las 11 semanas del curso:

Clases de Inglés: \$20.00

Clases de Ciudadanía, Escritura, o Conversación: \$10.00 por curso. Cuando sea necesario usar un libro, su costo será adicional. Se aceptará el pago con tarjetas de crédito o débito.

## ■ Preguntas:

Visite nuestra página Web: : [www.stmarkesl.org/](http://www.stmarkesl.org/)

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## ■ Ciudadanía

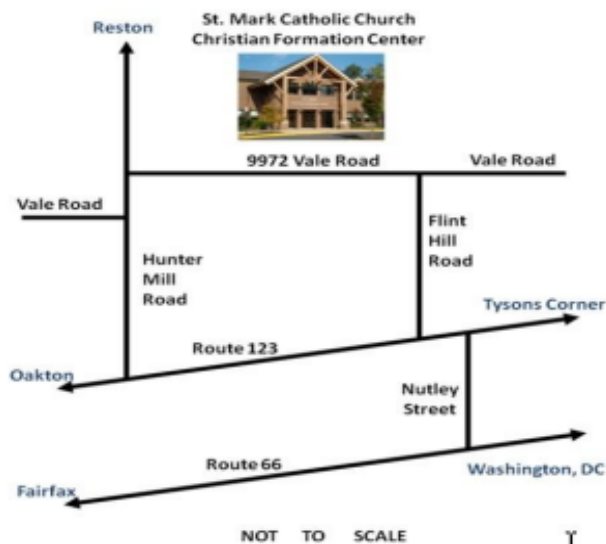
Se ofrece solamente a los estudiantes de ESL de St. Mark, de niveles intermedio o avanzado. Incluye clases individuales y una práctica para la entrevista, previa al examen de ciudadanía.

## ■ Escritura

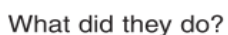
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## ■ Conversación

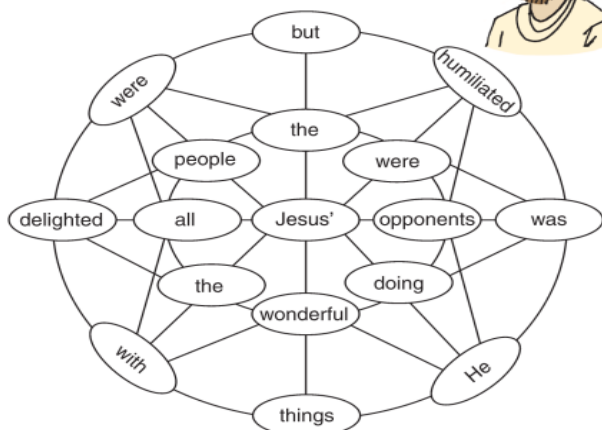
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Follow the arrows to fill in the blanks.  
Start at the center.



Jesus'

On a Sabbath, Jesus was preaching in one of the synagogues. A woman was there who had been bent over for 18 years.

Use the Morse code to fill in the blanks.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M  
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Jesus said, “\_\_\_\_\_”

[illegible]

# Children's Worship Bulletin™

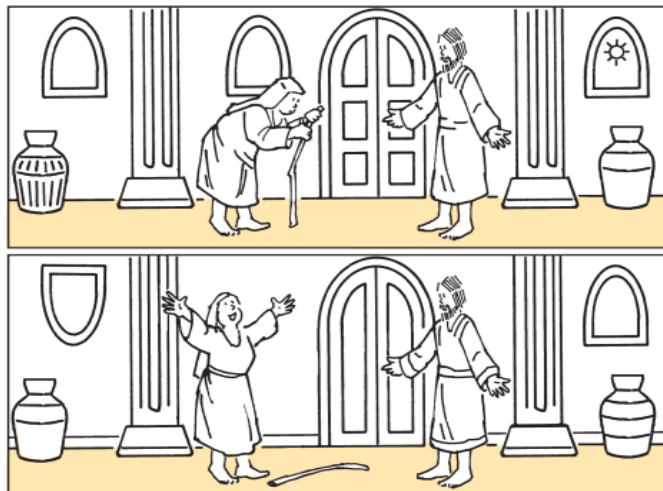
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August 24, 2025 • Luke 13:10-17

## On the Sabbath

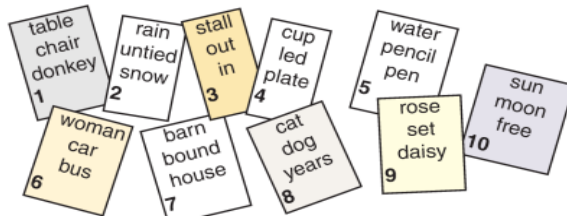
When Jesus healed a woman on the Sabbath, some people were upset.

Circle 12 different things in the bottom picture.



The synagogue ruler was not happy that Jesus healed on the Sabbath. He said people should come to be healed on the other six days. What did Jesus say?

Find the word in each set that doesn't belong.  
Write it on the numbered line below.



“A \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ from its \_\_\_\_\_”  
1 2 3

and            to            on the

Sabbath. This \_\_\_\_\_, who has been

\_\_\_\_\_ for 18 \_\_\_\_\_, should

7 8

also be  $\frac{\quad}{9}$   $\frac{\quad}{10}$  on

the Sabbath.”

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