

World Day of Prayer FOR THE CARE OF CREATION



**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
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

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 11:00 AM on
Tuesday (5 days prior to publication).** Please
note: this deadline can change due to holiday office
closings. Email submissions to
bulletin@nativityburke.org.

WEBMASTER:

Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Mary Castellano, socialmedia@nativityburke.org

Hear both
the cry of
the Earth
and the
cry of
the poor.

Pope Francis



A Message from our Pastor Msgr. Bob Cilinski



*"Humble yourself the more, the greater you are,
and you will find favor with God" - Sir 3:18*

My dear parishioners,

The word "humility" comes from the Latin word "humilis" which means literally "on the ground." So when we are advised to be humble, this is an invitation to be "grounded", to be on the same level as all people as the children of God. All persons are given life by God. We are equally loved and esteemed by our Holy God. We also recognize our place in relationship to God. God is God, and we are not. God is the Creator, we are God's creatures made in His image and likeness with dignity and worth. God is the giver of all life and every good gift. We are the stewards of the gifts God gives us.

Jesus tells us from a stance of humility who to invite into our lives.... The poor, the stranger, the sick, the hungry, those who cannot repay us, and those with disabilities. To be grounded is to recognize the bondedness we share with all humanity. Pope Benedict XVI said that "one can only celebrate an authentic Eucharist if one remembers the poor and needy." At each Mass we "tithe" from our offertory to support charitable works. One Sunday a month we bring food to feed the hungry. Remember the Poor Boxes at the doors of the church and support emergency assistance. These are tangible ways of inviting others to our table.

Tomorrow is the World Day of Prayer for the Care and Creation established by Pop Francis. I am grateful for the good work of the Nativity Creation Care Committee who advocate by action and teaching best practices to be good stewards of the earth, our common home. As we celebrate Labor Day, let us renew our resolve so all God's children may share in the goods of creation for generations to come.

Love and blessings,

Bob Cilinski

Msgr. Bob Cilinski
Pastor

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.

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".

NATIVITY FALL FESTIVAL

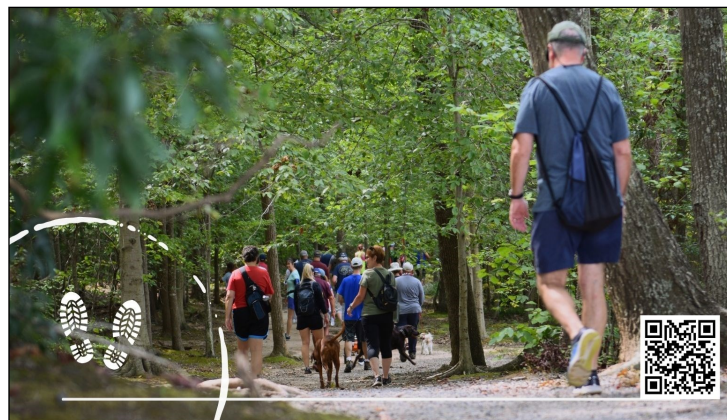
27 SEPT 2025

**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!

**THE NATIVITY OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
ALL DAY ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY,
MORNING MASS AT 9:00AM.**



Marriage Enrichment Ministry & Creation Care Ministry

6th Annual

HEROES HIKE

with Msgr. Bob Cilinski

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

Adults of the parish are invited to this fellowship hike
that is about 5 miles.

For more information and to register visit:

www.nativityburke.org/heroes-hike/

Contact Anna Lisa Licud:

marriage@nativityburke.org | (571) 208-2821



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/



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/>

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.



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

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



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.

**A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry**

The St. Fiacre vegetable garden, adjacent to the school playground, has had another great summer! Members of the Creation Care ministry, along with members of the Laurel Garden Club of West Springfield/Burke maintain the garden and harvest the vegetables. The vegetables are donated to Nativity's ministry "No Hands But Yours", as well as to a special education teacher in a Fairfax County Title 1 school, who provides it to her food-insecure families.

2025 Was not a good year for the tomatoes or peppers but the green beans are prolific, especially now. For the first time, we planted tomatillos. These have a beautiful flower. When pollinated, the fruit grows first like a balloon filled with air. The fruit grows from the inside to fill the balloon. Stop by and take a look, they are planted in the first lower bed closest to the school. But don't squeeze too hard! We have just planted carrots, beets and radishes for a fall harvest. This is easy to do, and we expect to harvest within 60 days.

Our garden is named for St. Fiacre. He was born in Ireland and moved to France to seek solitude for his prayer life. The bishop in France gave him as much land as he could plow in one day. He plowed with the tip of his staff. People heard of him and flocked to learn about the Christian faith. He employed his green thumb by growing food to feed the pilgrims and herbs to heal the sick. He is honored today as the patron saint of gardeners and herbalists.

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, September 1

9:00 am Special Intention for Maria Nave

Tuesday, September 2

7:30 am † Daniel Thomas Ozga

12:00 pm † Anthony Lisi & Donna Bush

Wednesday, September 3

7:30 am † Angela Merulla

3:00 pm † Gale Volkman (Sunrise)

Thursday, September 4

7:30 am † Therese Frenette

12:00 pm † Michael T. Baur

Friday, September 5

7:30 am † Mike Coldren

Saturday, September 6

9:00 am † Andrew Hoa Ngo

5:00 pm † John Betts

7:00 pm † Animas del Purgatorio

Sunday, September 7

7:00 am † Bridget Keogh

9:00 am Parishioners

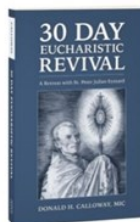
11:00 am † Joseph Donald

1:00 pm † Ubaldo Berta

5:30 pm † Edward Rawski

**In prayer, let us remember
the sick and deceased of the parish
visit nativityburke.org for the Priest Mass Schedule
<https://nativityburke.org/mass-intentions/>**

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

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

God gives all of us though his eternal love—a way to increase our love, holiness and faith by His presence in Eucharistic Piety. Join us on a spiritual journey for a greater understanding of Jesus' love for us, and our love for him through our devotion to the Eucharist.

The "30 Day Eucharistic Revival" is a Fr. Calloway, MIC, retreat focused on enhancing our love in the Blessed Sacrament.

The program begins on 30 September and features 5 Zoom meetings on Tuesday evenings from 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.



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. Registration opens September 1, practices start mid-September. 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.

Catholic Scouts—Ready to Level Up Your Faith?

Are you a Scout looking for something more than just rank advancements and merit badges? Want to make your faith part of your Scouting journey? Through fun activities, real conversations, a retreat, and service, you'll go deeper into what it means to be Catholic.

All Scouting BSA Scouts ages 13 & up are invited join us on Thursday, 18 September at the Nativity School (Rooms 203 & 204) at 7:30pm. We will conduct the first sessions of both the Ad Altare Dei (Ages 13 & 14) and Pope Pius XII (Ages 15+, Grade 9 & above) emblem programs, followed by monthly meetings thru April 2026.



Emblem information can be found at <https://nccs-bsa.org/religious-emblems/> or <https://nativityburke.org/religious-emblem-program/>. Please contact Mr. Sam Morthland, Nativity's Religious Emblem Coordinator at 571-594-1333 or spmorthland@gmail.com to register and receive additional program information.

(P.S. There are emblem programs for Cub Scouts too, if interested just ask!)

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 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 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.*

Nativity Religious Education Program

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Classes
start Sept.
14th

We need
your help!

Student Registration closes on September 2nd

Classes start on September 14th

Student Registration will re-open on September 17th

For the grades below:

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

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

nativity.ccd@nativityschool.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.



Order of Malta sponsored
MercyRide 2025
September 13 7:00am
W&OD Trail: 7, 20, 35 mile lengths
Questions: mercyrideinfo@gmail.com

all proceeds benefit
 Mother of Light Center

Are you separated or divorced?

Journey of Hope is a welcoming parish community for separated and divorced Catholics to share hope, healing, and fellowship that is rooted in Faith, God's Grace and immensurable Divine Mercy. Where ever you are on the journey, join us!



Next Meeting


When: Thurs., Sept. 11 @ 7 pm
Where: Nativity School, Room 203

Website nativityburke.org/separated-divorced
Contact separated.divorced@nativityburke.org

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, 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.



EDGE KICK-OFF

GRADES 6-8

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
in the Well (Youth Ministry Room)

Questions? Contact cym@nativityburke.org



GAMES, PRAYER, & GOOD FOOD!

Please register your child for the 2025-2026 year of ministry using our free, online form. Open to all children in grades 6-8 at Nativity parish

nativityburke.org/cym/edge

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



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, 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

CONTACT
retreat@ccda.net
ccda.net
703-841-3830

VOLUNTEER
volunteer@ccda.net



Saint Mary of Sorrows Annual Parish Family Picnic

On Labor Day, Monday, September 1st, Saint Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church will hold its 141st annual family picnic on the grounds of the parish center at 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax.



This family-friendly event will feature free parking, games, activities, and contests for all age groups. The day will begin with celebration of a Catholic Mass starting at 10:00 am.

Following the Mass, the picnic's many events and activities will be in full swing and remain running until 2:00 pm. Additional details can be found @ stmaryofsorrows.org.

Pro-Life Corner:

Bishop Burbidge addresses serious allegations of school-funded abortions – Listen to Bishop Burbidge's *The Walk Humbly Podcast* Episode 160 as he addresses the serious allegations that individuals at Fairfax County Public Schools arranged and funded abortions for minors without parental consent, as well as the proposed constitutional amendment in Virginia that would enshrine abortion rights in our state. He indicates that we must uphold the sacredness of life through faithful citizenship by fighting against the amendment that would leave parents powerless. <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/2025/08/22/the-walk-humbly-podcast-episode-160-alleged-school-funded-abortion-appaloosa-back-to-school-and-more/>

Centreville High School abortion scandal shows why voters must defend parents at the ballot box – In a related article,

Victoria Cobb, The Family Foundation of Virginia president, reports, "What should be a sanctuary of learning has instead become a harrowing example of institutional overreach. Recent revelations from Fairfax County — Centreville High School, to be precise — reportedly show school officials secretly and illegally arranging and funding abortions for girls without parental knowledge. In 2021, one student, age 17, was quietly escorted to a clinic, where the procedure was handled and paid for. Another student, five months pregnant and seeking to keep her child, fled the clinic after an alleged school counselor sent her, telling her she 'had no other choice.' In both cases, the school purposefully excluded parents from the conversation."

"These accounts are more than shocking; they are unconscionable. Virginia law mandates parental consent for minors seeking abortions unless judicial approval is granted. The law stands as a recognition of parents' God-given role and a bulwark of accountability in society. Yet in these alleged incidents, the school assumed the role of decision-maker, cutting out the people who love these girls most. This isn't compassion; it's deception. What makes this crisis even more urgent is the political backdrop."

"This year, Virginians will choose new statewide elected officials for governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general and will select a member of the House of Delegates to represent them. Every member of the Virginia House of Delegates voted on this issue last session, when they began the process of passing a radical constitutional amendment to write parental rights out of the commonwealth's law and shield schools from liability if they assist minors in obtaining abortions without parental consent. If enacted, this amendment will cement the very practices under investigation as lawful. Parents will lose the right to intervene. High schools will get a legal pass to bypass parents. Girls will be shortchanged of the best love and care they can get in their unplanned pregnancies.

"... [V]oters have a chance to fire the elected officials who believe the Fairfax situation ought to be the statewide norm before the ballot question moves any further. Voters must also provide a reckoning at the ballot box in November. No candidate who will not unequivocally support parental rights should be elected. If someone supports the radical Abortion Amendment, they are not supporting a "right" to abortion; they are supporting teen abortion, facilitated by outside adults without parental involvement. Now, it's up to the voters to make sure what happened in Fairfax doesn't become the norm in Virginia. <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2025/aug/25/centreville-high-school-abortion-scandal-shows-voters-must-defend/>

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. 866.444.3553.

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.

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 Se habla español.

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

"Let us not love with words or speech, but with actions and in truth"

Men's 144th Arlington Cursillo Retreat

MON, Nov 10 - THUR, Nov 13, 2025

San Damiano Spiritual Life Center, White Post, 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.

ECHO Collection NEXT weekend, 6/7 September Food Room Most Needed Items

Thank you for including ECHO Food Room needs on your shopping list. The USDA calculates that a meal for one persons is considered to be 1.2 pounds of food. Thus far this fiscal year ECHO has distributed 288,560 pounds of food which converts to 240,466 meals given to our neighbors in Burke and Springfield. Thank you donors for your generosity in helping our neighbors. Your help is greatly appreciated. At Nativity, we collected 950lbs on the weekend of 2/3 August .

- Choose sizes appropriate for our average family size of four.
- Include an assortment of food to ensure a variety of items.
- We are short on many other items such as personal care products and the items listed below.

ECHO 's policy is to not give expired, open or repackaged food to clients. PLEASE do not bring these items or glass jars!!

Bag Beans (black, red or garbanzo beans preferred), Lentils
Bag rice, Protein Items (can chicken, Spam, sardines, salmon, tuna, chili) Canned Fruit (100% juice), Peanut Butter, Cereal/
Oatmeal (Low sugar), Instant (Box) Potatoes, Box Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Can Tomatoes, Tomato paste & sauce, Can Milk, Shelf Stable Milk and Hot Chocolate, Snacks (Crackers, raisins, granola bars, dry fruit, nuts), Baked Beans, Instant Coffee, Tea (green, herbal, black), Pancake Mix & Syrup, Cooking Oil, Non-Salt Spices (cinnamon, cumin, pepper, garlic powder, onion powder), Masa (Corn) Flour, Sugar, Lemon or Lime Juice Honey and Jelly, Tortillas (corn and flour), Condiments (Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Mustard), Macaroni & Cheese.

Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge 2025

The Knights of Columbus (K of C) Soccer Challenge will be held on Saturday, September 27th from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Nativity Fall Festival

Youth ages 9 through 14 are invited to participate.

Each player will be allowed 15 penalty kicks at the goal which will be divided into scoring zones. Highest score in each age group will be declared the champion and will be eligible to compete at the October K of C District Competition.

Questions, please contact Dave Zivich at davezivich@gmail.com.

Council volunteers are needed to help run the soccer challenge.

Volunteer at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4EACAC29A2F58-43421618-soccer>

MARIAN HOMES CASINO NIGHT GALA 2025

Friday, October 3, 2025 | 7 - 11 p.m.
Country Club of Fairfax

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
www.marionhomes.org/gala

Join us for an exciting night of casino games, food, drinks, and prizes. All proceeds support Marian Homes, a nonprofit organization that provides safe, loving homes for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This year's gala will help fund our 10th group home, expanding our mission to give more individuals a place to live with dignity, care, and community.

POKER ♦ BLACKJACK ♦ ROULETTE



NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence
nativityschool.org



Join Us: This School Year's Upcoming Open House for Prospective Families 2026-2027 School Year

24 September from 10:00-11:00AM

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.

Nativity Starts the New Year With a Surge of Activity & Enthusiasm

From our Sneak-a-Peek and Opening Family Mass, STEM certification recognition, and PTO hot dog and popsicle celebration, we immediately dug into our academics, planning dual Back-to-School Nights for September 3rd and 4th, followed by Monsignor Bob's Annual Priest Barbecue serving the entire school on September 5th.



Important Upcoming Dates ~

Monday, Sep 1 -	NO SCHOOL - LABOR DAY
Tuesday, Sep 2 -	Preschool/Pre-K First Day
Tuesday, Sep 2 -	Band Demo (Grades 4-8)
Wednesday, Sep 3 -	Piano Demo (K-Grade 3)
Wednesday, Sep 3 -	Theater Club Auditions
Wednesday, Sep 3 -	BTS Night (Grades 6-8)
Thursday, Sep 4 -	BTS Night Preschool - Grade 5)
Thursday, Sep 4 -	Band & Piano Sign Ups
Friday, Sep 5 -	Priest Barbecue/Hot Dog Lunch

At Nativity, faith fills us. Love lives here. Nativity Stars are filled with the Holy Spirit! Join us to see how your child would spend his or her days here -- learning, praying, sharing, and laughing.

We may be just the school for which you've been searching!

Contact us at www.nativityschool.org, (703) 455-2300, or smurph@nativityschool.org.



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 or the Grand Knight, Michael Bender at 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

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. Fridays, contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com. Deliver food from Giant to the FFO warehouse Tuesday mornings; contact Br. Bob Colella robert.colella.86@gmail.com.

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

Handy Knights Ministry: Parishioners unable to perform basic maintenance tasks or small home repairs due to health or other factors, contact the "Handy Knights." Email handyknightsfnativity@gmail.com.

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

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

Name Tags: If you have not received your name tag, email our Warden, Robert Myers, at 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/>.

REGISTER TODAY TO SECURE YOUR SPOT!



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SEPTEMBER 27, 2025
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Mass in Observance of
Domestic Violence
Awareness Month

October 4th | 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!

NEED TO TALK?

Catholic Charities provides quality mental health services & counselors grounded in a Catholic understanding of the human person. "Nativity's Counselor" Ms. Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC visits Nativity to counsel clients in-person on Thursdays from 10:00am-6:00pm. She is available to talk with any parishioners who may be struggling. To set up an appointment, please contact Marguerite at 703-454-2415 or mmturner@ccda.net.



Golfing with Wolves

CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT at POTOMAC SHORES GOLF COURSE | **Thursday September 18, 2025**
SHOT GUN START 10:30 AM

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Awards Dinner following-tickets available for dinner only



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IN PERSON SPEED DATING

St. Timothy Catholic Church

October 25, 2025

7PM



Bl. Karl and Empress Zita



Ss. Louis and Zelig Martin

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Gentlemen
Sign-Up

Dress Code
Business Casual

RSVP-ONLY

REGISTRATION CLOSES
October 11, 2025



Ladies
Sign-Up



Questions? Issues?

Contact jtureaud@protonmail.com



Clases de inglés y Ciudadanía



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Comunidad de Culturas!



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

Iglesia Católica St. Mark, Centro de Formación Cristiana, 9972 Vale Road,
Vienna, VA 22181

■ 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/

Email: stmarksesl@gmail.com

Teléfono: 703-980-9380.

Para español: Llama a Margarita: 703-281-0146

■ Ciudadanía

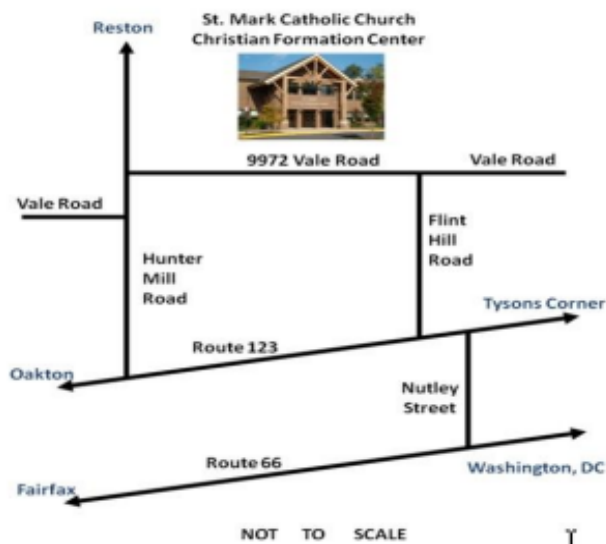
Se ofrece solamente a los estudiantes de ESL de St. Mark, de niveles intermedio o avanzado. Incluye clases individuales y una práctica para la entrevista, previa al examen de ciudadanía.

■ Escritura

Se ofrece solamente a los estudiantes de ESL de St. Mark, de niveles intermedio 3 y avanzado.

■ Conversación

Se ofrece solamente a los estudiantes de ESL de St. Mark, de niveles intermedio y avanzado.



**XXII Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario, Ciclo C.
Lc 14,1.7-14. Observador de apariencias**

Autor: Mons. Jesús Sanz Montes, ofm

No sólo se fijaba en los lirios del campo, en los pájaros del cielo, sino que también Jesús era un profundo observador de la conducta humana: los niños sencillos y sin doblez, las viudas que dan todo lo que tienen, los pecadores que en el fondo tienen un corazón abierto al perdón y al arrepentimiento... y también se fijará el Señor en los aparentes, en los que van por la vida de reclamo y de etiqueta.

Estaba invitado en casa de uno de los fariseos un sábado, día sagrado. Dice el Evangelio que tanto Él como los demás, todos se observaban mutuamente en aquél convite. ¿Qué vio Jesús? Que la gente se apuntaba a los primeros puestos, para salir en la foto de sociedad del lugar, para ser admirado, para estar en la boca de los otros, para sentirse en la pasarela del influjo y del renombre.

Jesús hablará siempre de la verdad, y por la verdad morirá, y de la verdad se autodefinirá. Jamás de la apariencia. Porque la apariencia es siempre una mentira, más o menos camuflada, más o menos fomentada y querida. Ser lo que en el fondo no se es, dar el pego y el camelo, aparecer tras el truco y la careta, jugar al eterno carnaval. Una persona así, que vive la vida desde su disfraz particular (importa poco que tal disfraz sea ideológico, cultural, económico... o incluso religioso), es una persona vendida a sí mismo, a sus pretensiones; una persona esclava de sus propias cadenas, y por eso inhábil para la libertad y para la sencillez.

"Cuando os inviten a una boda -decía el Maestro-, no busques el primer puesto" (Lc 14,8). No sólo por el soponcio que puede suponer después el que el acomodador te saque de tu podium, y te devuelva a tu cruda realidad, sino porque quien tiene pretensiones indebidas, quien va de "trepa" y de capta-portadas, es difícil que comprenda su dignidad, y la de los demás, cuando tan ocupado anda en su apariencia.

San Francisco lo dirá con su proverbial sencillez: "somos lo que somos ante Dios, y nada más" (Admonición 19). Sólo quien ha experimentado la libertad de ser y de querer ser lo que somos ante los ojos de Dios, sólo ése puede entender a Jesús y a Francisco. Son los ojos del Señor los que nos guían en la senda verdadera, los que nos mueven a reemprender el camino siempre que nos cansamos de andar, los que nos desvían cuando se tuercen nuestros pasos, los que se hacen luz y gracia para caminar. Los ojos de los demás tantas veces ven poco, o ven mal, turbiamente quizás. Los ojos de Dios, no engañan nunca, no humillan nunca, alumbran sin deslumbrar. Feliz el que vive así, sencillamente, porque experimentará lo que es vivir en la paz, en la libertad, sin ansias devoradoras, sin poses hipócritas, sin trucos ficticios... siendo ante uno mismo y ante los otros, lo que somos ante Dios.



¿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.

No tener confianza es no tener paz

Cristiano de hoy

No queremos hablar con nadie ni contarle a nadie nuestra pena, ¡nos han engañado! y hemos perdido la confianza.



Por: Ma. Esther De Ariño | Fuente: Catholic.net

No tener confianza, desconfiar, es perder la calma, es no tener paz. Hoy en día los hombres y las mujeres desconfiamos de todo y por lo tanto no tenemos paz. Vivimos recelando, pensando en que todos nos pueden engañar.

Tal vez sea porque tampoco nosotros somos auténticos, tal vez sea por eso. Lo cierto es que vivimos en un mundo de engaño. Engaño en los negocios, engaño en los artículos que consumimos, comida, cremas, accesorios, contratos, etcétera; engaño en el amor y en la amistad. Y cuando somos sinceros, honestos, ¡cuánto nos duele que alguien nos traicione!

Creer en nuestros semejantes, en nuestros seres queridos, es necesidad vital para poder vivir. Creer plenamente, sin sombra de duda en el ser amado es condición necesaria para sublimarnos en toda nuestra integridad moral como el que alguien nos diga: - ¡Creo en ti!. Pero los seres humanos nos fallamos unos a otros y es ahí cuando aparece el dolor, los celos, la desconfianza.

Tal vez hoy tengamos eso, dolor, decepción, estamos heridos, nos han engañado... Tal vez aquel puesto de trabajo que nos prometieron fue un engaño, tal vez aquel juramento de amor no fue sincero, tal vez aquella amistad nos clavó un puñal por la espalda... Traición, mentira, desilusión, elementos y sensaciones que nos hacen estar tristes, muy tristes. No queremos hablar con nadie, no queremos contarle a nadie nuestra pena, ¡nos han engañado! y hemos perdido la confianza.

Por ese dolor, de la índole que sea, no nos dejemos aniquilar. Dios es nuestro Padre y nos está cuidando, un Padre todo amor y en Él si podemos confiar. Fijémonos en los niños cuando juegan en el Parque. Andan corriendo un poco lejos de su madre, pero si tropiezan y caen, o algo los asusta, corren a refugiarse en los brazos de ella que los acoge solícita y el niño con un suspiro de llanto apoya su cabecita en el regazo materno porque allí se siente seguro y CONFIADO. Eso es lo que necesitamos cuando las cosas nos hacen sufrir, tener confianza en nuestro PADRE Dios pero también en los hombres. El niño no solo cuando cae o tiene miedo, sino cuando encuentra una florilla corre gozoso a mostrársela al ser querido. Así nosotros en nuestras penas, pero también en nuestros acontecimientos gratos, en nuestros triunfos y alegrías vayamos a Él para mostrarle y agradecerle todo aquello que nos llena de dicha.

La falsedad, aunque en estos tiempos parece acosarnos para donde miremos, no es un mal de hoy. Ya lo podemos ver en el texto de (Jeremías, IX, 3 y 55) "Nada de fidelidad, solo el fraude predomina en la tierra. Amontonan iniquidad sobre iniquidad... recelan uno del otro, nadie confía en nadie todos engañan, todos difaman... no hay en ellos palabras de verdad. Tan avezadas están sus lenguas a la mentira, que ya no pueden sino mentir".

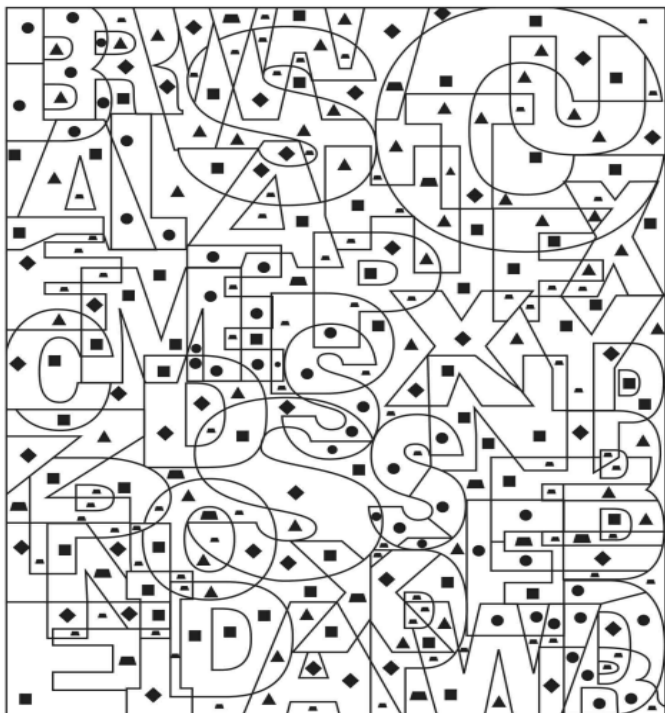
Nos engañamos, nos mentimos unos a otros porque no somos auténticos. Hemos de vivir nuestra existencia con autenticidad para poder confiar y dar confianza a nuestros semejantes.

Estamos llamados a hacer un mundo nuevo. Un mundo mejor. Un mundo verdad. Y LA VERDAD NOS HARÁ LIBRES. Para eso tenemos que vivir nuestra propia vida con auténtica verdad. Una auténtica renovación en nuestras vidas, empezando por confiar en la Humanidad.



What did Jesus say you will be if you do this?

Find the missing word by shading all blocks with a ●.



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When Jesus noticed how the guests chose their seats, He told them this parable.

Fill in the missing vowels in the order they are given. Read the story.

e o e o e i i e o u a e i e a o o a e e a e o o o o a e o o e
i i u i e a o u a a e e e i i e a e e o e a e o a e o u o o e e i
a o u i e o e u o a e e a e



"Wh _ n s _ m _ n _ _ nv _ t _ s

y _ _ t _ _ w _ dd _ ng f _ _ st, d _

n _ t t _ k _ th _ pl _ c _ _ f

h _ n _ r, f _ r _ _ p _ rs _ n m _ r _

d _ st _ ng _ _ sh _ d th _ n y _ _ m _ y

h _ v _ _ b _ _ n _ _ nv _ t _ d ...

T _ k _ th _ l _ w _ st pl _ c _ ,

s _ th _ t wh _ n y _ _ r h _ st c _ m _ s,

h _ w _ ll s _ y t _ y _ _ , 'Fr _ _ nd,

m _ v _ _ p t _ _ b _ tt _ r pl _ c _ ."



Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

August 31, 2025 • Luke 14:1, 7-14

The Parable of the Marriage Feast

Jesus went to eat in the house of an important Pharisee.

Find 12 differences between these two pictures.



Jesus told the person who had invited Him, "When you give a banquet, invite ..."

Add and subtract letters to find out.

1. - t + - ange = the _ _ _ _ _

2. - h + - t +

- og = the _ _ _ _ _

3. - obster + - pple +

- ous = the _ _ _ _ _

4. - otte + - har +

- mokey + - esk = the _ _ _ _ _

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