



There I Am IN THE MIDST OF THEM.

MATTHEW 18:20



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
SEMINARIAN GABRIEL GAUDET

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

Diane Dellen, Parish Secretary
Ann Benson, Business Manager
Carlos Gutierrez, Facility Manager
Johana Brown, Parish Receptionist
Angela Bohli, Receptionist/Baptism Coordinator
Caroline Chase, Receptionist/Bulletin Editor
Ana Gonzalez, Receptionist/Offertory/Mass Intentions
Charlie Gutierrez, Evening Receptionist
Patricia Pagoda, Director Family Ministry & Social Action
Tracey Hulen, Disability Inclusion Coordinator
Grace Carroll, Director of Youth Ministry
Anna Lisa Licud, Coordinator Marriage Enrichment
Cat Sands, Director of Pastoral Care
Karla Camino, Sacristan
Mary Castellano, Director of Social Media
Carole Fischl, Co-director of Music
Debbie Doyle, Co-director of Music
Mai Tran, Traditional Choir Director
Sara Prince, Youth Choir Director
Mina Lee, Cornerstone Contemporary Choir Director
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



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. Monday, Tuesday and
Thursday and 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 11:00 AM on
Tuesday (5 days prior to publication). Please
note: this deadline can change due to holidays or
office closings.

BULLETIN EDITOR:
Caroline Chase, bulletin@nativityburke.org

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SOCIAL MEDIA:
Mary Castellano, socialmedia@nativityburke.org

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

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A Message from our Pastor Msgr. Bob Cilinski



"You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no evil to the neighbor, hence love is the fulfillment of the law"
- Romans 13:10

My dear parishioners,

We have often heard the TV announcement that reminds us of our shared responsibility to keep our roads safe: *"Friends don't let friends drive drunk."* It means we have a responsibility for our friends if we really are friends. It's not about interfering in people's lives or passing judgment on others. It's all about loving one another. As daughters and sons of God, we have to look out for one another. That means when another is in trouble or being harmed, we must speak up on their behalf. By speaking up we can keep something bad from happening.

To admonish the sinner has always been listed as the first of the spiritual works of mercy. It is never easy, and most of us would rather not do it. But there are times when love calls us to take the risk to speak to the person about our concerns for them. It is a loving thing to do and it can be done humbly and privately at first. If needed, we can ask a few people to join us in expressing our concerns for a person's well-being.

Love sometimes requires that we tell it like it is. That's what Jesus did and he expects that we do the same, out of love for our neighbors.

Let us enjoy the Labor Day holidays. May our word bring God glory and praise. May we honor the dignity of all workers.

Love and blessings,

Bob Cilinski
Msgr. Bob Cilinski
Pastor

Celebrating A Golden or Silver Wedding Anniversary This Year? If you were married in 1976 or 2001, please join Bishop Michael Burbidge for the 2026 Mass for Jubilarians to be celebrated on:

**Sunday, October 18th at 2:30 p.m. at
the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington, VA.
Visit your parish office to register no later than
October 2nd. For more information, visit
<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/event/marriagejubilee/>**



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

CLASSES START SEPTEMBER 20TH!

NOTE: If a session is full, it will automatically show you other available options.

nativityburke.org

To register go our parish website or scan Qr Code



nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org 703-455-0372

IMPORTANT

Registration closes September 7th to give our catechists time to prepare for classes beginning September 20th. Registration reopens September 23.

In Observation of Labor Day, the Parish Office will be closed all day on Monday, September 7th. Morning Mass on Monday will be at 9:00 am, there will be no noon Mass.

We **11 SEPTEMBER**
REMEMBER
HONORING LIVES LOST & HEROES AMONG US.

WE REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES ON 9/11. WE LIFT THEIR FAMILIES, FRIENDS, AND LOVED ONES IN PRAYER, ASKING FOR YOUR COMFORT AND PEACE TO SURROUND THEM. MAY YOUR LIGHT SHINE UPON THE SOULS OF THE DEPARTED, AND MAY YOUR GRACE BRING HEALING TO THOSE LEFT BEHIND. GRANT THEM STRENGTH AS THEY CARRY THE WEIGHT OF LOSS, AND MAY THEY ALWAYS FEEL YOUR PRESENCE WITH THEM.

Eight Students Receive a Knights of Columbus Getek Memorial Pro-Life Scholarship Award!



In memory of the Nativity Church's and Knights passionate past pro-life leader, the late George J. Getek, this Scholarship Program was established to further build up the Culture of Life at Nativity from the "ground-up", energizing (public, private, Catholic, or homeschooled) 8th-grade, high school and college/university/trade school students to:

- Become better educated on pro-life issues consistent with Catholic Church teaching
- Be better able to think more critically about and communicate pro-life issues with their friends and others they interact with.

No pro-life experience was required to win a scholarship. George's wife, Ellen Getek, indicated, "George was a firm believer in the importance of education so this scholarship in his name is even more special to me and our family."

One scholarship was awarded to the top scorer in each of the five grade-groups, and then three additional scholarships were awarded. This year's scholarship awardees at the grade school, HS and university level were honored at Nativity's End of Year Knights of Columbus Awards Dinner. Each attending student received a check for \$1,000, a framed certificate of achievement, and then read a one 1-minute excerpt from one of his/her respective essays. Six of the eight students are shown in this group photo, including (l-r): Elliot Ivie (Nativity Grade School; winner of the Mike Litzelman Memorial Award for top scoring 8th-grader), Anthony Licud (St. John Paul II HS), Andrew Tramel (TJHSST), Elise Ladino (CNU), Sophia Cassidy (DeSales Univ), and Gabriel Garcia (UVA). Maria Martinez (GWU) is shown receiving her framed certificate from Grand Knight Michael Bender. Although Malia McGarry (Univ of Louisville) was not able to attend the awards ceremony, through God's Providence, she happened to meet George Getek's wife, Ellen, and her family after a recent Mass!

After the presentations, GK Michael addressed the students, "We pray that going forward you will feel more confident, more at ease, and better equipped to address some of these critical life issues with friends and others you may encounter. This spiritual work of mercy can lead to conversion of hearts, saving of lives, and peace of mind and soul." One dinner guest summarized the positive impact of the speeches, "I wish I had been as well informed in my younger days as these students are!"

This youth scholarship program depends on donations. Consider a tax-deductible gift by check (to "Nativity Pro-Life Ministry" with note 'Getek Memorial Pro-Life Scholarship Program') or online <https://osvhub.com/nativityburke/giving/funds> by clicking Pro-Life Ministry button with same note. For more information, contact rickloffredo@outlook.com.

Peace in the Storm Chronic Pain and Illness Support Group



Tuesday, Sep 8 | 7:00 - 8:30 pm | Church Conference Room

Thursday, Sep 10 | 12:45 - 2:15 pm | Fr. Ready Room

Nativity Catholic Church is aware of the many challenges that chronic pain and illness pose in the lives of our parishioners. We understand how these conditions can lead to questions of faith, too, and want you to know that you are not alone!

All adult parishioners who have chronic pain or illness are invited to participate in a parish-based, small, faith fellowship group developed by the national ministry called The Peace in the Storm Project. We meet to reflect, pray, and deepen our understanding of God's love, presence, and purpose with and through health challenges within the context of our Catholic faith and parish community. Group participants will receive The Peace in the Storm Project **Discussion Guide** at no cost.



If you are interested in joining the group or for more information, please email Anna Lisa Licud at alicud@nativityburke.org or visit our parish website www.nativityburke.org/peace-in-the-storm/

We are currently looking for volunteer readers for the 1:00 PM Sunday Mass. If you are interested in serving, training will be provided! Please stop by the sacristy right after Mass today to speak with us, or send an email to Karla Camino at kcamino@nativityburke.com for more information.



Monthly Sensory Mass: Sunday, September 13th at 1:00 pm

In an effort to embrace and welcome the neurodiverse members of our community, Nativity Catholic Church is hosting a monthly Sensory Mass on the second Sunday of every month at the 1:00 pm Mass. All are welcome to attend!

A special invitation is extended to any person in need of sensory accommodations. A sensory Mass requires a welcoming stigma-free environment and accommodations to help reduce over-stimulation and sensory overload.

We also invite you to join us after the Sensory Mass for coffee, donuts, and fellowship in the cafeteria.

If you would like to learn more about the Monthly Sensory Mass, please email Tracey Hulen, Disability Inclusion Coordinator at thulen@nativityburke.org.



To protect human life & the truth about marriage

CATHOLICS VOTE NO

on the

"Virginia Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment" and
"Virginia Remove Constitutional Same-Sex Marriage Ban Amendment"

Pledge to Vote: CatholicsVoteNo.com

 CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Early Voting begins September 18
Election Day November 3




**Retreat for Persons Facing Serious
Illness Hosted by Catholic Charities
Diocese of Arlington
October 2 – 4, 2026**

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 people facing serious illness. This retreat is an opportunity for prayer, reflection, spiritual guidance, and gentle care. Beginning with Mass celebrated by Bishop Burbidge, you will be accompanied by diocesan priests and compassionate volunteers experienced in serious illness, offering prayerful support, understanding, and encouragement. 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.

Jesus is the source of all peace:



He brought it into the Holy Family and He wants to bring it to our families. From a quiet place in our souls, with prayer guided by the Holy Family, we can bring peace to our families and to the world.

Join fellow parishioners on a 6-week small group, online retreat via Zoom from Sep. 29-Nov. 3, 2026, with a consecration to the Holy Family on Nov. 8.



ALTAR FLOWERS Donated by

The Powers Family
In Loving Memory of
Joe and Mena Macaluso



Next weekend, our second collection supports the annual Mission Cooperative Plan Appeal for our diocese. Our parish mission organization is: Commission for Social Communications Society.

The motto of the Society is to be of service to all without distinction of caste, creed, race or social status in the sphere of Social Communications and without any profit motive whatsoever.

This appeal helps our brothers and sisters who do not have access to basic pastoral services that support and grow their faith, like Mass, the sacraments, religious education as well as basic needs – like food, shelter, and healthcare.

You can support these organizations through this week's 2nd Collection. If donating by check, please make your check payable to our parish and put "MCP" in the memo line. Through your support, the MCP Appeal helps these mission organizations form vibrant faith communities and strengthens the global Church. Please be generous.

Attention Please!

**MOST MASS INTENTIONS HAVE
BEEN FILLED THROUGH
THE END OF DECEMBER 2026**

**WE CURRENTLY DO NOT HAVE ANY
MORE MASS INTENTIONS
AVAILABLE**

**THE MASS CALENDAR FOR
1 JANUARY, 2027 – 31 JUNE, 2027
WILL OPEN IN THE MIDDLE OF
NOVEMBER 2026, PLEASE WATCH
FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN
THE BULLETIN OR ON OUR WEBSITE**

Come as you are.
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Make authentic connections with other women | Learn more about God

Join us for **Keeping in Balance** where we'll explore Biblical ideas for managing life's pace and pressure while living with calm and steadiness. Your lifestyle of health and holiness awaits.

Here, at Nativity Catholic Church | Wednesday's starting Sept. 23
 9:30-11:30 AM (+ childcare)

CONNECT <https://nativityburke.org/www/>
 Questions? Contact WWP at wwpnativity@gmail.com



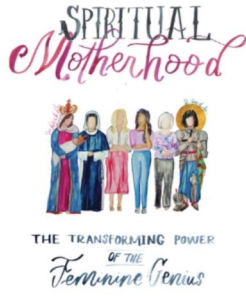

Come as you are.
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Make authentic connections with other women
 Refuel and refresh | Learn more about God

Spiritual Motherhood: The Transforming Power of the Feminine Genius Bible study will lead you on a journey of discovering your true identity. Cultivate your unique capacity to nurture, restore, and bring others closer to Christ.

Here, at Nativity Catholic Church | Wednesday's starting Sept. 23 7-9PM

CONNECT <https://nativityburke.org/www/>
 Questions? Contact WWP at wwpnativity@gmail.com





A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Each year, Creation Care Ministry partners with the Marriage Ministry for the Heroes Hike and Bunnyman Brewery fellowship. This year's event falls on Saturday September 12 <https://nativityburke.org/heroes-hike/> and as always honors the sacrifices of so many on 9/11.

Walking around the beautiful natural habitat of Lake Mercer allows us to appreciate God's beauty—studies of our physical and mental health show how important connecting with nature is, but our spiritual health can equally benefit. This is a wonderful time to be celebrating God's beautiful creation! In fact, it is the Season of Creation—a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home. Pope Francis made the Roman Catholic Church's warm welcoming of the season official in 2015. The Season of Creation begins on September 1, World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. This year's Season of Creation theme is "Living Water"—a theme rich in spiritual meaning but also in environmental meaning. Our plants at the base of our food webs depend on adequate water for survival and animals are dependent on clean water for health and flourishing. Join us to learn more about this important local resource and the plants and animals that call it home! Register for the hike and/or Bunnyman fellowship on the church webpage.



MASS INTENTIONS & MASS SCHEDULE

"We are God's People"

1 Peter 2:10

Monday, September 7 Labor Day

9:00 am † Joseph & Veronica Dysart

NO NOON MASS

Tuesday, September 8

7:30 am † Viam Carolina Balcazar

12:00 pm † Mona McInerney

Wednesday, September 9

7:30 am † Kenneth Haley

Thursday, September 10

7:30 am † Perpetua Gaiter

12:00 pm Special Intention for Paul Mary Arnold

Friday, September 11

7:30 am † Danny Morgan

Saturday, September 12

9:00 am † Jhonatan Cavizza

5:00 pm † Megan McAveney

7:00 pm † Antonio Rojas Trujillo (Spanish)

Sunday, September 13

7:00 am † Peter and Martha Palermo

9:00 am † Barbara Boyd

11:00 am † Edward D. Rawski

1:00 pm † Mary Ellen Gibson (Sensory)

5:30 pm Nativity Parishioners

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

Disability Inclusion Ministry Gatherings: Join us for faith, friendship, support, and connection throughout the year.

NEW: Faithful Friends – NEW- FAITHFUL FRIENDS

An Inclusive Young Adult Faith-Sharing Ministry

Are you a young adult who has graduated from high school and is between the ages of 18 and 39 looking to grow in faith and friendship within an inclusive community?

Faithful Friends is a new ministry for young adults with and without disabilities. Together we share faith, build friendships, celebrate the gifts each person brings, and foster a community where everyone belongs. Join us for spiritual and social gatherings throughout the year as we participate in parish life and grow together in faith.

Caregivers Supporting Loved Ones with Disabilities – A supportive gathering for caregivers seeking encouragement, spiritual support, and connection with others navigating similar experiences.

Registration is required for all gatherings. For dates, details, and registration visit: nativityburke.org/disability-inclusion or for additional information or questions contact Tracey Hulen, Disability Inclusion Coordinator at thulen@nativityburke.org.



Nativity Religious Education Program

Classes start Sept. 20th

"We need you! Please share your time and your heart with our children. Become a catechist and help us guide them closer to Jesus."

Scan the QR-Code to Sign-up!



WE NEED CATECHISTS FOR THE GRADES AND SESSIONS BELOW:

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

VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS RECEIVE 50% TUITION DISCOUNT FOR A SCHOOL YEAR COMMITMENT

We also need office Volunteers for both Sunday Sessions

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

nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org



CYO CHEER NATIVITY STARS

REGISTRATION

Registration opens September 9th!
All girls in grades 3-8 are welcome to register
Information: <https://nativityburke.org/cyo-cheer/>
Registration link: (provided near registration date)

PRACTICES AND GAMES

Practices: Begin mid-late October
Cheer Events: December to March

VOLUNTEERS

Coaching and Schedule Coordinator volunteer roles available.
High School Student Volunteer roles available (cheer experience preferred); receive volunteer hours!

Information: <https://nativityburke.org/volunteer-coaches-needed/>

Please reach out if interested!

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT
CYOSPORTS@NATIVITYBURKE.ORG

'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?

Then we invite you to join Nativity's OCIA/Order of Christian Initiation of Adults journey of faith. The Welcome Class is on Monday, September 21, 2026, 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, March 28th, 2027, with reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and/or First Holy Communion.

Our Monday evening sessions continue weekly until just prior to Pentecost Sunday (April 26, 2027) 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, or speak to Monsignor Bob Cilinski, or email Linda Loffredo at lindaloffredo@gmail.com. Visit our website <https://nativityburke.org/rcia/> for more information and online registration.

The Msgr. Bradican Division members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) thank all Nativity parishioners for their great support of our recent "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. Ray Hanson and their family 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!!!

Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge 2026

The Knights of Columbus (K of C) soccer challenge will be held Saturday, September 26th from 11:00am to 3:00pm 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 Jim Batrla at jbat747@gmail.com. Council volunteers are needed to help run the soccer challenge.

Volunteer at:

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

Nativity Catholic Church

Love to Sing?

A decorative graphic featuring several musical notes in red, blue, yellow, and pink, along with a treble clef. There are also several yellow stars of different sizes scattered around the text.

The Traditional Choir is seeking new members this fall!

- Choir sings at the 9:00 am Sunday Mass, Christmas Midnight Mass & Easter Vigil/9:00 Morning Mass
- Rehearses at 7:30 pm on Thursday evenings at the church throughout the school year
- Our repertoire spans a variety of music (Traditional, Classical, Gospel, Contemporary, Chant)
- ALL voices are needed (soprano, alto, tenor bass & high soprano)
- You must be able to match pitch or repeat/mimic musical phrase
- We welcome those over 18 years of age
- Opportunity to heighten spiritual experience, serve God and others, enhance Mass liturgy!

Contact Choir Director Mai Tran in person after the 9:00 am Mass or at maitran2020@yahoo.com if interested



WORLD CLASS SPORTS PRESENTS

NATIVITY SHOOTING STARS

PRESEASON CLINIC SERIES

LOOKING TO GET PREPARED FOR THIS UPCOMING BASKETBALL SEASON.

REGISTER NOW \$100 ALL CLINIC DATES	TUESDAY/THURSDAY: 9/29, 10/1 ★ ★ ★ TUESDAY/THURSDAY: 10/6, 10/8	3RD-5TH GRADE 6PM - 7PM ★ ★ ★ 6TH-8TH GRADE 7PM - 8PM
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★ ROUND ROBIN PICKUP SCRIMMAGES ★

SATURDAY: 10/11, 8AM-5PM
SUNDAY: 10/12, 1-5PM

EACH PLAYER WILL RECEIVE POSITION SPECIFIC WORKOUT PLAN

TELL A FRIEND BRING A FRIEND!

NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
6398 NATIVITY LN, BURKE, VA 22015

REGISTER HERE:

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DEADLINE 9/18
PRICE GOES TO \$125 AFTER DEADLINE

Would you like to broaden your knowledge on the presence, power, and beauty of our Blessed Virgin Mary?

Come join us at our Legion of Mary meeting, held on Wednesdays, at 7:00 pm in the Teachers Lounge. Interested, contact: Kathryn Quan at jaynekathrynq1@yahoo.com.

Venerate the relics of St. Bernadette Soubirous at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, September 18-20.

In addition to the relics, visitors can touch a portion of the rock that makes up the Grotto where the Our Lady appeared to St. Bernadette in 1858, wash with water from the spring, light a candle, and entrust your petitions to the intercession of St. Bernadette and Our Lady of Lourdes.

On Friday, September 18, Cardinal Robert McElroy, Archbishop of Washington, will celebrate the Opening Mass with the Relics at 12:10 pm. On Saturday, September 19, Archbishop Timothy Broglio, Archbishop for the Military Services, USA, will celebrate the 4:30 pm Mass, followed by a candlelit procession to pray the Rosary. On Sunday, September 20, Archbishop Gabriele Caccia, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, will celebrate the Closing Mass with the Relics at 12:00 noon. More information can be found at www.nationalshrine.org/events.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Knestout issued the following pre-election letter to the faithful of their dioceses.

This Election Season is Different August 2026

In Virginia, every year is an election year. However, the contents on the ballot this fall are anything but ordinary. In the upcoming election (Sept. 18 – Nov. 3), the decisions we make will shape the future of our Commonwealth in unprecedented ways. In addition to a U.S. Senate race and local Congressional races, Virginia voters will decide three proposed constitutional amendments with far-reaching consequences.

Two of the proposed changes to Virginia's constitution – Ballot Question 1 (abortion) and Ballot Question 2 (marriage) – concern fundamental matters of right and wrong.

Ballot Question 1 would cement a so-called “fundamental right” to abortion into our state constitution – all the way up to birth and for “every individual,” even children. It would endanger women's health and safety and even push parents out of life-changing and irreversible decisions for their minor daughters. It would shield “any individual” who assists in an abortion from legal consequences. When debating the language of the proposed constitutional amendment, legislators even rejected a proposal to require that any baby born alive after an attempted abortion would receive the same level of care and treatment as any other infant. Ballot Question 1 is extreme, dangerous, radical and horrific.

Ballot Question 2 would remove the definition of marriage as the “union between one man and one woman” from our constitution, and would replace it with “any lawful marriage between two adult persons.” We affirm the dignity of every person. We also proclaim the truth that marriage – created by God – is and will always be the union of a man and a woman. God's design for marriage – woven into the fabric of our being – was established before any nation, religion or law. We are called to honor and preserve it. The marital union – between a man and a woman who give themselves completely to each other – is a unique and irreplaceable bond that is the basis of the family and society.

God is the author of life and marriage. We must protect and preserve these extraordinary gifts from our Creator. As Catholics, we have a sacred duty to form our consciences prayerfully and correctly, and to vote NO on Ballot Question 1 and Ballot Question 2. Ballot Question 3 would restore voting rights to individuals who have completed their time of incarceration. This issue is a matter of prudential judgment upon which people of goodwill can disagree. Through the work of the Virginia Catholic Conference, we have consistently supported this measure and continue to do so. In your own assessment of this proposal, we invite you to consider the Church's teaching on participation in the common good, rehabilitation, restoration, mercy and second chances – as well as times when you have witnessed God's redemptive work in your own life and the lives around you.

More information on the three ballot measures can be found on the websites of the Virginia Catholic Conference and our two dioceses. Early voting begins September 18. Election Day is November 3.

As the Catechism reminds us, “It is necessary that all participate... in promoting the common good.... As far as possible, citizens should take an active part in public life” (nos. 1913-1915). Through conscience formation, prayer and fasting, may we as Virginia voters all prepare to cast votes that will honor the gift of life and Jesus who is “the way and the truth and the life” (John 14:6).

Faithfully yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington
Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout, Bishop of Richmond



Marriage Enrichment Ministry

7th 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 12 | 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



All are invited to attend the 11th Annual Mass Honoring Military and First Responders on Sunday, September 13, 2026, at 11:00AM, St. Leo the Great Catholic Church (3700 Blenheim Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22030). Bishop Burbidge will be the Main Celebrant and Homilist. Members of the military, law enforcement, and fire & rescue are encouraged to wear their dress uniform. A picture of our "heroes", along with our clergy present, will be taken immediately after Mass; a luncheon reception honoring these "heroes" will follow in the school gym.

Fall Grief Retreat:

Finding the Passion of Christ in Your Story

You do not have to grieve alone. Join other mothers of loss on September 18th & 19th for a fall retreat hosted by the Diocese of Arlington Chapter of Red Bird Ministries.

Draw closer to the Lord in your grief and find comfort, healing, and hope by connecting with others who understand the extraordinary cross you are carrying. For all mothers of loss, from pregnancy through adulthood.

When: Friday, September 18 (6:30–9:00 pm) and Saturday, September 19 (9:00 am–5:30 pm) Where: Morning Star Retreat House in Great Falls Cost: \$40 (includes \$25 grief group journal, breakfast, & lunch) Register: www.redbird.love/arlington-va Questions? Email elizabeth@redbird.love

JOIN OUR 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.

No audition necessary! 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.

Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate



Chocolate



Coffee

For sale in the Nativity Gift Shop

Please join us...



*11th Annual Mass Honoring
Military and First Responders*

*Sunday, September 13, 2026, 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*

*For more details, contact us at
heroes.mass@gmail.com*



Nativity Catholic Church New Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Join Our New Bible Study,
"Praying with Scripture Together: Heart & Liturgy" At

We are launching a new Bible Study on Tuesday mornings, focused on personal daily meditation and contemplation of the upcoming Sunday Gospel and reflection on the first and second readings. We will encounter our Lord Jesus through scripture, prayer, and community.

No matter where you are on your faith journey, you are welcome here!

Tuesdays | 10:00 am - 11:30 am | Starting September 15th
Fr. Ready Room (in-person and virtually during the winter)

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Bible study facilitator:

Tanya Quinonez at tanyaaglewings@hotmail.com

For more information contact:

Deacon Richard Kelly at deaconrfk@aol.com

Please register by September 8

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 Meetings

Thursday, September 17 @ 7:00 pm
Thursday, October 8 @ 7:00 pm
Nativity School - Room 203

Website nativityburke.org/separated-divorced

Contact separated.divorced@nativityburke.org



CYO BASKETBALL ** NATIVITY STARS **

REGISTRATION

Registration opens September 9th!
All boys and girls in grades 3-8 are welcome to register
Information: <https://nativityburke.org/cyo-basketball/>
Registration: (provided near registration date)

PRACTICES AND GAMES

Practices: Begin mid-late October
Games: December to March

VOLUNTEERS

Coaching volunteer roles available.
High School Student Volunteer roles available (basketball experience preferred); receive volunteer hours!

Information: <https://nativityburke.org/volunteer-coaches-needed/>

Please reach out if interested!

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT
CYOSPORTS@NATIVITYBURKE.ORG

FALL FESTIVAL

Bring your family & friends and celebrate the season!

SEPTEMBER
26

11:00AM
TO
7:00 PM

NATIVITY
CATHOLIC CHURCH
6200 NATIVITY LANE
BURKE, VA



WHAT TO EXPECT



LIVE
MUSIC



PUMPKIN
ACTIVITIES



FALL
FOOD & TREATS



FAMILY
GAMES & CRAFTS

nativityburke.org/fall-festival



Assembly of CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS



Quarterly luncheons with national speakers, diocesan clergy and local lay leaders



Network with Catholic leaders in a welcoming community



Engage directly with Bishop Burbidge

The **Assembly of Catholic Professionals** is a new initiative to deepen the connection between faith and professional life in the Diocese of Arlington. The Assembly brings together Catholic business and professional leaders from across the diocese to build community, grow spiritually, and support the Church's mission. Through quarterly luncheons, members build relationships with one another and engage directly with Bishop Burbidge, diocesan clergy, national speakers, and local lay leaders in a setting of fellowship and formation.



BECOME A MEMBER!
catholicarlington.org/acp

2026 SCHEDULE

Quarterly Luncheon 11am-1pm



APRIL 28, 2026
 Westwood Country Club

ANDREW V. ABELA

*Founding Dean, Busch School of Business
 Catholic University of America*



JUNE 17, 2026
 Westwood Country Club

JACOB CICCARELLI

*CEO & Co-Founder
 Truthly*



SEPTEMBER 24, 2026
 Westwood Country Club

CARDINAL SEÁN O'MALLEY

Archbishop Emeritus of Boston



DECEMBER 7, 2026
 Archer Hotel, Tysons

KERRY ALYS ROBINSON

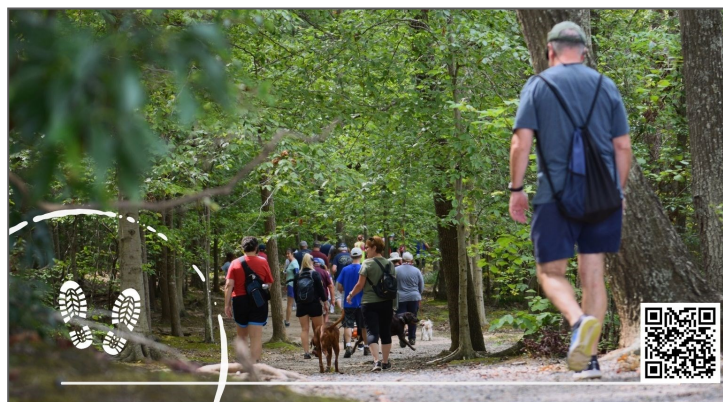
*President & CEO
 Catholic Charities USA*

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

Seton Jr.-Sr. High School in Manassas, VA, invites you to its Fall Open House on Sunday, October 4, 2026 from 2:00-4:00 pm. Seton School, offering grades 7-12, is Newman Guide recommended. Formal presentations begin at 2:00 pm, followed by mock classes, tours and a reception. Email Mrs. Tara Judge for additional information or with questions: admissionsassociate@setonschool.net.

**CALLING ALL THIRD DEGREE KNIGHTS!
 COMPLETE YOUR FAITH JOURNEY.
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
 FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR JOHN LATHROP
 AT FN2996@VAKOFC.ORG**



Marriage Enrichment Ministry & Creation Care Ministry

7th Annual

HEROES HIKE

with Msgr. Bob Cilinski

September 12th | 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



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nativityschool.org



***Nativity School: Now accepting applications for
Preschool 3, and 2nd, 5th, and 6th grades for this
2026-27 School Year. It's not too late – join us!***

For details, visit the school website:

www.nativityschool.org/application-process/

or contact Shannon Murphy at (703) 455-2300

Sneak-A-Peek:

At Our Preschool and Pre-K Preview

The youngest among us – our preschoolers and pre-kindergartners – just attended their Sneak-A-Peek last week, viewing their classrooms, meeting their teachers, seeing old friends and making new ones. Their coming school days will be filled with fun, faith, and learning. In addition to Religion, Math, Science, Language Arts, and Spanish, the students will visit the Library and MakerSpace weekly, as well as take Music and PE classes once a week.



Love working with children? Want flexibility? Substitutes wanted!

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.



Fr. Sikora Council 7992 Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.
The 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.

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>. As we continue to celebrate Blessed Michael J. McGivney's Beatification, please enter the Promo Code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY to join online for free. Please email our Deputy Grand Knight, Stephen Resch, at dgk7992@nativityburke.org or the Grand Knight, Vince Augelli at gk7992@nativityburke.org with any questions.

Volunteer for an event! Scroll down to view all events, https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992.

Knights, are you receiving the Grand Knight Newsletter? If not, go to: <https://NativityBurke.flocknote.com/NativityKnights> to sign up.

13 SEPT: Corporate Communion 9:00 am Mass. This is a chance for brother Knights and their families to attend the 9:00 am Mass together as a group. Sit in the reserved rows at front. Wear your name tag! SUG available on the Linktree!

18 SEPT: Volunteer pitmaster grillers needed from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm for Priests BBQ in Nativity parking lot near Fr. Martin Center. SUG available on the Linktree!

24 SEPT: Our next exemplification for new knights begins at 7:00 pm. For more information, contact our Deputy Grand Knight, Steve Resch at dgk7992@nativityburke.org or the Grand Knight, Vince Augelli at gk7992@nativityburke.org.

25, 26 SEPT: Volunteers needed to help set-up, cook, and serve at Nativity's 2026 Fall Festival. Many opportunities available. SUG available on the Linktree!

4 OCT: Donut Sunday! Please volunteer to help set up, make and serve coffee and donuts for our fellow parishioners! Wear your name tag! SUG available on the Linktree!

24 OCT: Save the date for our Masquerade Ball! Plan to attend, plan to volunteer, or plan to do both! SUGs available on the Linktree for both ticket sales at masses prior to this event as well as for this event!

Food for Others: Volunteer for food distribution to the poor, delivered on designated Thursday or Friday evenings. For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyer koc7992@verizon.net. For 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.

Widow Support: **Updated** We need drivers to support rides to appointments. See SUG for details!

Prayer Requests: Prayer requests will stay active for one month. Prayer update (health, location, contact, etc.) status is deeply appreciated. Send an updated request for continued support. <https://forms.gle/LiPCRmzfYRnYEU8s5>

Name Tags: If you have not received your name tag, email our Warden, Dan Thomas, at warden7992@nativityburke.org.

Nativity Ushers assist at collections: Volunteer for your Mass! Volunteer on LinkTree to maintain a database of potential helpers!

Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies: We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. See info on LinkTree.

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

YOU'RE INVITED!

To a Birthday Celebration for the Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday, September 12, 2026, following the 9:00 am Mass. The Legion of Mary will host a celebration for Mary's Nativity (Feast Day September 8) with a reception and breakfast in the Fr. Ready Room. Please join your fellow parishioners in this tribute to the "Mother of Jesus."

Employment Opportunities in the Diocese

Find the perfect Opportunity at:

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



Fall Marriage Program: The Good, the Messy, and the Beautiful:

The Joys and Struggles of Real Married Life
An Ascension Press study with Edward and Beth Sri

-  Fridays in October: 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30
-  6:30–8:30 PM | Nativity School Teacher's Lounge
-  Potluck, Fellowship and Marriage Program



Register here: <https://nativityburke.org/mem-program/>



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finding the
Passion of Christ
in our story

GRIEF RETREAT FOR MOTHERS OF LOSS

FRIDAY, SEPT. 18TH FROM 6:30 - 9:00 PM
SATURDAY, SEPT. 19TH FROM 9:00 - 5:30 PM

Morning Star Retreat House
10609 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA

\$40 REGISTRATION FEE

Includes Grief Journal (\$25), light breakfast, lunch & drinks
This retreat is ideal for mothers at least 6 months into loss.



SCAN CODE TO REGISTER OR VISIT
WWW.REDBIRD.LOVE/ARLINGTON-VA

QUESTIONS? EMAIL ELIZABETH@REDBIRD.LOVE

CUESTA Y MUCHO**Domingo XXIII (A)****Javier Leoz**

Todos, en muchos aspectos, tenemos un ideal. Todos, en algún momento de nuestra vida, hemos anhelado llegar a metas altas. Todos, en algún instante, hemos intentado buscar la perfección y escapar de la mediocridad o de las cosas dejadas a medias.

Y, en todo ello; en los ideales, metas y búsqueda de la perfección, nos hemos dado cuenta que no siempre hemos estado a la altura y que, para llegar hasta el final, hemos tenido que corregir aquello que no era bueno para lograr nuestros propósitos. ¿O no?

-¿Sirve de algo iniciar un viaje sabiendo que, en el bolsillo, no tenemos lo suficiente para hacer frente a los gastos?

- ¿Es bueno, para nosotros y para los que nos rodean, encerrarnos en nuestros defectos y presumir de lo que sabemos son en el fondo errores?

- ¿Por qué, con frecuencia, pensamos que la conversión o el cambio lo tienen que realizar los demás y no en nuestra vida?

Jesús, en el evangelio de este domingo, nos ofrece unas pistas que son muy dignas de ser tenidas en cuenta:

Primero: la corrección fraterna no significa el modelar las personas a nuestro antojo. Cuántas veces nos creemos con derecho a apuntar las debilidades de los demás y a ocultar las nuestras. El Señor nos indica el camino y el sentido auténtico de la corrección fraterna: buscar que nuestros hermanos estén en comunión con Dios.

Segundo: nuestro objetivo, como cristianos, no es juzgar ni pregonar desde la azotea de nuestras palabras, posición o privilegios, las actitudes o vida de los demás. Nuestra oración, nuestra misión o nuestro reto debe ser precisamente el que los demás encuentren la verdad de Dios.

Tercero: aquello de “*a mí plin*” no es bueno ni característico de una vida cristiana. Los problemas de los demás, aunque nos parezca una intromisión, deben de ser también los nuestros. No podemos vivir indiferentes al sufrimiento de los que nos rodean. Ser cristiano es compartir la alegría y la tristeza, el gozo y el llanto, el éxito y el fracaso con todos.

Cuesta, y mucho, corregir y ser corregido. Corregir; porque siempre hay riesgo de perder amigos y de ser subjetivo o dejarnos seducir o condicionar por nuestras ideas, ideologías o preferencias. Cuesta, y mucho, ser corregido; entre otras cosas porque el nivel de nuestra fe no siempre está suficiente cultivado como para afrontar o acoger una dinámica de este tipo.

Sólo, desde la lectura de la Palabra de Dios, desde el amor a Cristo, desde el deseo de encontrarnos con El es cuando, la corrección fraterna, es entendida como un camino que nos abre las puertas hacia el encuentro personal y auténtico con Jesús y a una mejora en nuestra relación con los demás.

Vivimos en una sociedad donde, los defectos y los fallos de la Iglesia, son aireados no como llamada al cambio o la reflexión sino como destrucción. También, a nuestro alrededor, con nuestra forma de enjuiciar situaciones y personas, podemos caer en la misma tentación: querer someter todo aquello que no nos agrada. Y eso, amigos, no es corrección amigable, fraterna o cristiana, sino todo lo contrario: aniquilación del adversario.

Pidamos, desde la fuerza que nos da la oración, que seamos capaces de discernir nuestra propia vida, de fomentar comunidades cristianas más auténticas y de que, nuestra maduración en la fe vaya creciendo de tal manera, que gustemos y acojamos la corrección como un camino hacia la perfección humana, comunitaria y personal.

HAZLO CON AMOR

Si tengo defectos y dificultan mi camino

ayúdame a superarlos....pero con amor

Si avanzo en la dirección equivocada

indícame el camino verdadero....pero con amor

Si hay algo que de mí no te gusta y te hiere

házmelo saber....pero con amor

Si mi vida se dispara hacia un túnel sin salida

advértemelo....pero con amor

Si soy egoísta o vanidoso

si la envidia no me deja ser feliz

si tengo mil vicios o caídas

dímelo....pero con amor

Si no soy como no tengo que ser,

no pretendas que sea como tú,

pero si tú vives en la verdad y yo en la mentira

dime cómo se sale de ella....pero con amor

Si me falta corazón y caridad

reza por mí....pero hazlo con amor

Si estoy mal conmigo mismo y con los demás

si me encuentro agarrotado por la soberbia

si hace tiempo que perdí el norte de mi existir

mírame a los ojos....pero hazlo con amor

Si pensamos de forma diferente

si crees que podemos caminar juntos

si todavía confías en mí

lo intentemos de nuevo.....pero con amor

Pero una cosa te digo:

Si piensas que, sólo soy yo, el que fallo

Si crees que, soy sólo yo, el falto de caridad

Si crees que tú eres el santo, el bueno y el sabio

no me digas entonces nada...

Porque es cuando me daré cuenta

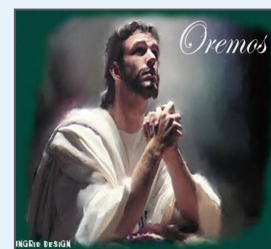
que tú tampoco dejas actuar a Dios.

Dime lo que quieras...

pero eso sí...hazlo con amor

Amén

Javier Leoz





What did Jesus say?



On each line, write the letter that is missing from the series below it.

“

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

”

What if the person doesn't listen?

Use the code to find out.

○=A	◐=E	⊕=I	⊗=M	◼=Q	◼=U	◼=Y
●=B	◑=F	⊕=J	◻=N	◼=R	◼=V	◼=Z
◐=C	◑=G	⊕=K	◼=O	◼=S	◼=W	
◑=D	◑=H	⊕=L	◼=P	◼=T	◼=X	

◼ ○ ⊕ ◐ ◼ ◻ ◐ ◼ ◼ ◼ ◼

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Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

September 6, 2026 • Matthew 18:15-20

Where Two or Three Come Together

Jesus taught His disciples a lesson about getting along with other people.

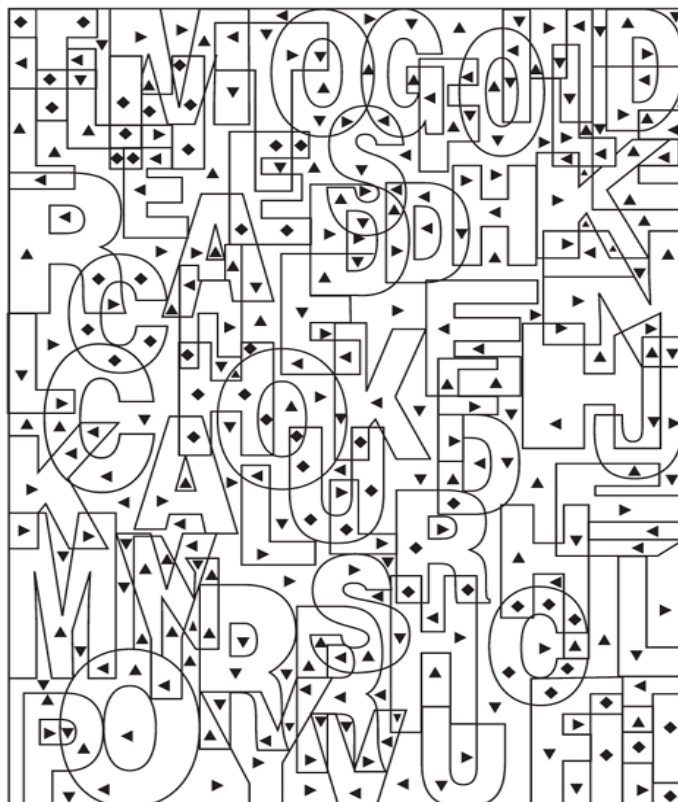
Fill in the missing portions of the letters to read a lesson Jesus told.



If another member
of the church
sins against you,
talk with that
person privately.

Where should you go if the person still does not listen?

Shade in all the blocks with a ♦.



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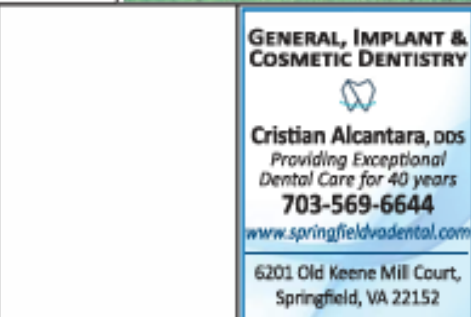
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