

Lord, grant me a generous heart



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 Guttierrez, 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
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 pm Saturday Vigil Mass
7:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass in Spanish
7:00 am / 9:00 am / 11:00 am / 1:00 pm / 5:30 pm
Monthly Sensory Mass on the second Sunday of
every month at the 1:00 pm Mass

WEEKDAY MASSES:

7:30 am Monday through Friday
12:00 pm Monday / Tuesday / Thursday
9:00 am on Saturday

ADORATION:

5:00 - 8:00 pm on Wednesday

HOLY DAY MASSES:

As announced

RECONCILIATION:

3:30 - 4:30 pm on Saturday or, if necessary, by
appointment

BAPTISM:

For more information and how to schedule a
baptism, please visit our website at:
<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 closings

BULLETIN EDITOR:

Caroline Chase, bulletin@nativityburke.org

WEBMASTER:

Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Mary Castellano, socialmedia@nativityburke.org

A Message from our Pastor Msgr. Bob Cilinski



*The landlord asked, "Why do you stand here idle all day?"
They answered, "Because no one has hired us."
He said to them, "You too go into my vineyard." - Matt 1:16*

My dear parishioners:

The parable of the landowner who goes out throughout the day hiring more workers for his vineyard, teaches us about God's invitation to be co-workers for the Kingdom and God's generosity to those who respond.

Timing is important. When is the best time to get in touch with God? Right now! Now is the acceptable time. Now is the moment! We don't want to regret waiting too long to share in the ministry of Jesus when he is calling us now.

This Sunday our catechists are commissioned at all Masses. How richly blessed we are in the men and women who teach our faith and pass on our values to the next generation. Religious education for our children is off to a great start.

There is no need for anyone to stand idly by, for we are called and chosen to participate in something marvelous and joyful. Name the many ways you work for the Lord, some of which no one notices. Name the ways in which the Lord has been generous and loving to you. Everyday let us bless the Lord and praise God's name. Thank you for the love and goodness you share in our church. Thank you for all that you are and all that you do for the parish at Nativity. See you at the Parish Festival next Saturday, September 26th!!

Love and Blessings,

Bob Cilinski

Msgr. Bob Cilinski,
Pastor

To say YES to the sanctity of life & the truth about marriage

CATHOLICS



NO

on

BALLOT QUESTIONS 1 & 2

CatholicsVoteNo.com

Early Voting begins September 18
Election Day November 3

NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Boys and girls who are now in the fifth through twelfth grade, who would like to be Altar Servers for either the English or Spanish Masses, need to attend TWO (out of Three) training sessions this fall.



The training sessions will be held in the church at 6:00 pm on Thursday, October 1 - Monday, October 5 - Thursday, October 8.

One parent should attend the first training session if possible. No returning server workshop is scheduled at this time.



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/>

THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN LIFE & MARRIAGE

calls for a consistent, universal response from Catholics to protect and preserve objective goods by which God blesses humanity.

As Catholics, we vote no on these ballot measures:

☐ YES **BALLOT 1: "Virginia Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment"**

- Eliminates common-sense health and safety regulations
- Allows unregulated abortion even for healthy babies up to birth for any reason with no limits
- Pushes parents out of irreversible, life-altering decisions involving their underage daughters
- Encourages even non-physicians to operate unlicensed abortion businesses

☐ YES **BALLOT 2: "Virginia Remove Constitutional Same-Sex Marriage Ban Amendment"**

- Enshrines radical gender ideology through "sex" and "gender" language
- Conscience rights and religious liberty protections would be effectively denied
- Commercial surrogacy would continue to exploit vulnerable women and violate the rights of children

Pledge to Vote: CatholicsVoteNo.com

CATHOLICS



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 2 - 4, 2026

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

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.



NATIVITY
CATHOLIC CHURCH

FALL FESTIVAL

Bring your family & friends and celebrate the season!

SEPTEMBER
26

11:00AM
TO
7:00 PM



Sign up to volunteer!

WHAT TO EXPECT



LIVE
MUSIC



PUMPKIN
ACTIVITIES



FALL
FOOD & TREATS



FAMILY
GAMES & CRAFTS

nativityburke.org/fall-festival

Volunteer for the Fall Festival!

We're looking for volunteers to help make this year's Fall Festival a success. Volunteering is a wonderful way for families to give back to the parish and for students to earn service hours for graduation, confirmation, and other requirements. For more details and to sign up, please visit our parish website: <https://nativityburke.org/fall-festival/>

- For Youths and Teens: Service hours will be provided for each hour of volunteer time.
- Each homemade cake donated for the Cake Walk earns one service hour.
- Attention Nativity School Parents: This event does NOT count towards PTO hours; however, you can earn a dress down day!
- When you volunteer for 2 or more hours, your children will receive a free dress-down day! (*Please note, donating cakes does not qualify for this offer.*)

Thank you for your support – we can't do it without you!



NATIVITY ITALIAN HERITAGE & CULTURAL SOCIETY SEPTEMBER KICK-OFF MEETING

WE ARE KICKING OFF THIS YEAR'S FIRST PROGRAM WITH A SOCIAL GATHERING OF LAUGHTER, FRIENDSHIP AND AN ITALIAN TRIVIA CONTEST ON SEPTEMBER 24 IN THE NATIVITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA. COME AND TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF ITALIAN ART, CULTURE, HISTORY AND PERSONALITIES. WE WILL HAVE PRIZES FOR FIRST PLACE, SECOND AND THIRD PLACE. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

DATE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 AT 7:00PM
PLACE: NATIVITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

SOCIAL HOUR WITH WINE AND SNACKS WILL FOLLOW. IF YOU CAN, PLEASE BRING AN APPETIZER OR DESSERT TO SHARE.

MEMBERS CAN RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIPS FOR \$25/FAMILY OR \$20/SINGLE. GUESTS CAN ATTEND FOR \$5.00. YOU DON'T NEED TO BE ITALIAN TO JOIN, JUST HAVE A LOVE FOR THE CULTURE AND HERITAGE!

NATIVITY GIFT SHOP

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We are in need of volunteers to assist in the gift shop after the 11:00 AM Sunday Mass.

If you are interested, please stop by the gift shop after Mass today for details!

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




St. Lucy Fall Food Drive:

Saturday, October 17th from 9:00AM-1:00PM

The St. Lucy Fall Food Drive will take place from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday, 17 October to support Catholic Charities in its campaign against hunger in the Diocese. The St. Lucy truck will be parked at the rear of the church parking lot nearest Old Keene Mill Road (like in the previous food drives). During that time, you can drive to the truck and our team will take any donations from your vehicle (please place your donations in your trunk for safe and easy removal). Catholic Charities also accepts monetary donations, especially grocery gift cards (Giant, Safeway, etc.); any donation is welcome! Please make any checks out to CCDA, with "St. Lucy Project" in the memo line. We can always use help with loading donations; if you'd like to volunteer, please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D49ADAE29A6FE3-stlucy1>. If you would like to help hand out the blue bags after Mass on October 10th or 11th, please join us in the narthex after Communion. If you have questions, please email the St. Lucy Team at nativity.stlucyteam@gmail.com. Thank you and God bless you!

ALTAR FLOWERS donated by
Gerry Pannoni
in Loving Memory of
Lisa Pannoni

MASS INTENTIONS & MASS SCHEDULE
"We are God's People"
1 Peter 2:10

Monday, September 21
7:30 am † Jose Pastor Jr. & Nevla Nunez
12:00 am † Girium Dagne

Tuesday, September 22
7:30 am † Steven Loenichen
12:00 pm † Stephen Lisi Jr.

Wednesday, September 23
7:30 am Special Intention in Thanksgiving
10:00 am Special Intention for Anthony Demma (Heatherwood)

Thursday, September 24
7:30 am † Rick Vaughn
12:00 am † Gerald Gavin

Friday, September 25
7:30 am † Guadalupe Nieto

Saturday, September 26
9:00 am † Balsam Sabbagh
5:00 pm Nativity Parishioners
7:00 pm Special Intention for Micaela Olivera (Spanish)

Sunday, September 27
7:00 am Special Intention for Stefan Moorhouse
9:00 am † Kerry Gorton
11:00 pm † Margaret Mary Cragon
1:00 pm Special Intention for Kimberly Huber
5:30 pm † Bernice & Leo de Paepe

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



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

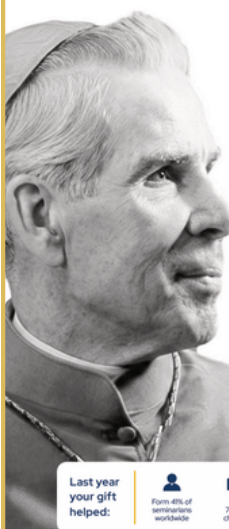
ONE IN CHRIST, United in Mission
100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY
World Mission Sunday October 18th, 2026

"Let us be charitable about the missions, remembering that the Lord who said: 'Go teach all nations' is the same Lord who bewailed: 'I have mercy on the multitudes.'"
— Blessed Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen
National Director
The Pontifical Mission Societies USA
(1950 - 1966)

GIVE BY TEXT "MISSIONS26" TO 53555

Last year your gift helped:

- Form 4% of seminarians worldwide
- Build 750 new churches
- Sustain 1,000 mission dioceses
- Train 843,785 missionary catechists
- Support 50% of all religious sisters worldwide






*"You created every part of me, knitting me in my Mother's womb.
For such handiwork, I praise you. Awesome is this
great wonder" Ps. 139:13-14*

COME JOIN THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY!

The Nativity Prayer Shawl Ministry is almost 18 years old and has many members who meet monthly on the third Monday morning of the month at 9:30am in the Fr. Ready room. Our ministry has distributed thousands of Prayer Shawls to individuals *"across the street and around the world"* as our parish motto says. We have received many stories that some shawls have been handed down to several members of the same family. All who have received shawls have experienced God's love in some way.

This beautiful Ministry provides a *"Mantle of Prayer"* to recipients who receive the consolation and Peace that only God can give. Each recipients name is recorded and remembered in prayer by the Prayer Shawl Ministry and at each weekend Mass celebrated at Nativity.

If you are in need of a prayer Shawl for yourself or others who are seriously ill, please visit the parish office to pick one up. Although there is no charge for the shawls, if you wish to give a donation, it will go to the cost of the yarn and other needs. It is important to know that the shawls are just a tangible sign of the prayers of our parish for those in need!

The next Prayer Shawl meeting will be held on Monday morning, September 21st at 9:30 am in the Fr. Ready room. This ministry is open to all members of our community! For more information, please contact Bonnie Carpenter at: jim-bonnie@cox.net.



CYO CHEER NATIVITY STARS

REGISTRATION

Registration is OPEN!

All girls in grades 3-8 are welcome to register
Registration and Information:
<https://nativityburke.org/cyo-cheer/>

PRACTICES AND GAMES

Practices: Begin mid-late October on Tuesday evenings
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

Nativity Catholic Church

Love to Sing?

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

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.

Jesus chose the greatest man and woman ever born to be his parents on earth.



Together, they were the richest family in history because He was the center of their home. Find the source of true wealth and happiness. Join fellow parishioners for 33 Days to the Holy Family, 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.







A 5-WEEK PROGRAM
FOR MARRIED COUPLES

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/>

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>.



CYO BASKETBALL
**** NATIVITY STARS ****

REGISTRATION

Registration is OPEN!
All boys and girls in grades 3-8 are welcome to register
Registration and Information:
<https://nativityburke.org/cyo-basketball/>

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!

The Nativity Rosary Ministry was busy this summer!

Over 850 World Mission rosaries were made as part of the nationwide 75,000 rosary effort for Archbishop Sheen's Beautification ceremony this month. Just one example of the work our Nativity Rosary Ministry does. If you are looking for a new way to serve and deepen your commitment to the Blessed Mother, consider joining Nativity's Rosary Ministry. We will teach you how to make Mission Rosaries, rosary bracelets, one decade rosaries and more! All that is required is your time--all supplies are provided. We pray the rosary at each meeting and then teach anyone who wants to learn.

Our first kick-off meeting of the year will be on Sunday, September 27th from 2:00-3:30 pm in the Fr. Ready Room. We are saving a spot for you! For questions email rosaryministry@nativityburke.org.



A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry:



The Fall Festival is NEXT SATURDAY! Reminder to bring your reusable water bottle to earn free tickets at our water-bottle refill stations! Everyone in the family is eligible.

Raptor show at 3:00 pm: Get up close and personal with some of creation's most fascinating creatures.

Celebration of Trees Table: Earn a prize for completing our native tree activity! Great for families!



Date Night

No Greater Love: The Story of Tom Vander Woude



CHRIS VANDER WOUDE
CATHOLIC SPEAKER

➔ **SATURDAY • OCTOBER 17 • 6:00 PM** ➔

Following the 5:00 PM Mass
Dinner & Childcare Provided

Sunday Evening Gatherings: 7pm-8:30pm

SEPT 27

OCT. 25

DEC. 6

JAN. 24

FEB. 28

APR. 25

Gatherings are at the same time but in different meeting spaces
PARTICIPANTS MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE TO ATTEND.



LEARN MORE AT

[HTTPS://NATIVITYBURKE.ORG/DISABILITY-INCLUSION/](https://nativityburke.org/disability-inclusion/)



A faith-sharing ministry for:
young adults (ages 18-39)
that brings together individuals with
and without disabilities to build
meaningful friendships, encourage one
another in faith, foster a true sense of
belonging, and reflect Christ's call to
inclusion.



Faithful Friends walk together in faith and
life. Through shared experiences like
attending Mass, participating in church
events, and engaging in both
spiritual and social gatherings,
Faithful Friends builds meaningful,
supportive relationships and these
friendships deepen our Catholic Faith and
create opportunities for spiritual growth
and connection.



Caregivers Supporting Loved Ones
with Disabilities (of all ages) are
invited to join us for a time of
*community, encouragement, and
spiritual support.* This gathering will
include small group conversations, a
presentation from a fellow caregiver,
and space to connect with
other parish families navigating
similar journeys. Caregivers include
those caring for family members with
disabilities such as sensory processing
challenges, ADHD, autism, or
intellectual, physical, and
developmental disabilities, etc. We
consider caregivers to be any relative
who is walking alongside a family
member with special needs.
Caregivers must register in advance to
attend.



YOUTH MINISTRY

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY: GRADES 9-12

Life Teen
Every Sunday | 6:30-8:30pm



Save the Date: OCT 25th, RALLY
Diocesan HS Youth rally @ Bishop O'Connell HS

HS Small Groups!

Guys Group; 7-8pm on Monday evenings
Girls Group; 7-8pm on Thursday evenings

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY: GRADES 6-8

Edge
2nd and 4th Fridays | 6:30pm-8pm

Blaze (Girl's Small Group)
2nd and 4th Fridays | 5pm-6:15pm



CONTACT US!

Grace Carroll, Director of Youth Ministry
gcarroll@nativityburke.org

Claire Anderson, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
canderson@nativityburke.org

✉ cym@nativityburke.org 📷 @nativitycym

❤️ **WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP!**
Religious Education Classes
Begin Next Week!

Our Religious Education classrooms will soon be filled with the children of our parish, and we are reaching out to our parish family for help.

We are still looking for three wonderful volunteers to serve as Primary Catechists and Office Assistants for:

- GRADE 1 PRIMARY CATECHISTS**
Session 4
17 Mondays | 7:00-8:15 PM
Session 5
17 Tuesdays | 4:45-6:00 PM
- OFFICE ASSISTANCE**
Session 1
17 Sundays | 3:45-5:00 PM

You don't need to be a teacher or have all the answers. You simply need a willing heart and a desire to help our children grow in their faith. Your time and presence can make such a beautiful difference in the life of a child and in our Religious Education community.



PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING US!
We truly need your help, and we would be so grateful to have you! Forming Hearts, Building Faith, Sharing God's Love.

Scan the QR-Code to Sign-up!



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

nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org

COMMUNITY FRIENDSHIPS

FUN MUSIC

NATIVITY'S MASQUERADE BALL

DJ MUSIC DANCING PHOTO BOOTH SILENT AUCTION CASH BAR (BEER & WINE) RAFFLES BOURBON TASTING STATION

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 24, 2026

TICKETS

\$45

DINNER TICKET = FULL ACCESS 6:30 PM to 11:00 PM
DINNER AND ONE DRINK (PROSECCO) INCLUDED

SCAN QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS!



MASKS AND COSTUMES ENCOURAGED

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 7992
NATIVITY PARISH, BURKE, VA



FAMILY MINISTRY

Nativity Catholic Church

Topic: Faith Life



Come connect, meet other families, and discover how we can grow together in faith, community, and friendship.

TRINITY HOUSE COMMUNITY GATHERING

When: September 12 | 9:30 am
Where: Nativity Cafeteria

RSVP
<https://bit.ly/4hJysh0>



Breakfast and Childcare will be provided

TRINITY HOUSE community



WORLD CLASS SPORTS PRESENTS

Nativity Catholic Church
Catholic Youth Organization

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
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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

QR CODE

PRO-LIFE CORNER

On The Dignity And Rights Of The Intellectually Disabled Person

During his pontificate, Pope (St.) John Paul II spoke at an international symposium on the dignity and rights of the intellectually disabled. His words then are equally meaningful or more so today and worthy of reflection. "The starting point for every reflection on disability is rooted in the fundamental convictions of Christian anthropology: even when disabled persons are mentally impaired or when their sensory or intellectual capacity is damaged, they are fully human beings and possess the sacred and inalienable rights that belong to every human creature. Indeed, human beings, independently of the conditions in which they live or of what they are able to express, have a unique dignity and a special value from the very beginning of their life until the moment of natural death... The wounded humanity of the disabled challenges us to recognize, accept and promote in each one of these brothers and sisters of ours the incomparable value of the human being created by God to be a son in the Son.

"The quality of life in a community is measured largely by its commitment to assist the weaker and needier members with respect for their dignity as men and women... Only by recognizing the rights of its weakest members can a society claim to be founded on law and justice: the disabled are not different from other people..."

"[F]or disabled people, as for any other human being, it is not important that they do what others do but that they do what is truly good for them, increasingly making the most of their talents and responding faithfully to their own human and supernatural vocation.

"In this world of ours that approves hedonism and is charmed by ephemeral and deceptive beauty, the difficulties of the disabled are often perceived as a shame or a provocation and their problems as burdens to be removed or resolved as quickly as possible. Disabled people are, instead, living icons of the crucified Son. They reveal the mysterious beauty of the One who emptied himself for our sake..."

It is said, justifiably so, that disabled people are humanity's privileged witnesses. They can teach everyone about the love that saves us; they can become heralds of a new world..."

EWTN Features "Sensory Mass" for Neurodiverse at Nativity Church

Part of that commitment spoken by John Paul II above is reflected in Nativity's monthly Sensory Mass that was featured on EWTN. The reporter begins, "After much loving thought, study and planning, a special type of mass is being offered at a church in Northern Virginia. What is called a sensory mass provides a safe space for parishioners with sensory processing issues mental illness or disabilities to worship in an accepting environment. It has offered up only a handful of parishes around the country. EWTN News in Depth attended a sensory mass... creating a safe and welcoming space where everyone feels accepted and can be themselves... This is what Nativity Catholic Church in Burke, Virginia, strives to be with its sensory mass. It's like regular mass, but with a few changes." Then Msgr. Bob explains, "Dimming the lighting, softer sounds, turning down the speaker system less. Less music, and quieter times. A sensory mass helps reduce overstimulation and sensory overload. Many people benefit from this environment, including those with sensory processing challenges, autism, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and adults with Alzheimer's disease and dementia. When I heard that 20% of the population struggles with that and would not be able to come to mass, I said, I think we need to take a look at this. It got my attention because I really believe in opening wide the doors for those with developmental disabilities and because they bring so many gifts to the church..." Watch EWTN's feature at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UUGITd6Ybfc>



SPRED (Special Religious Development) is another relevant Nativity Church program

In this ministry, children (K-8) who are developmentally disabled come together with spiritual catechists to share with others and form a small faith community.

<https://nativityburke.org/re/spred/>



During the weekend of October 3rd / 4th, 2026, there will be a display of beautiful olivewood handmade carvings from the Holy Land in Our Church. These Carvings are made by the Christians

of Bethlehem who use them as their source of income.

During this difficult time in the Holy Land, Bethlehem is still isolated and suffering. Tourism has completely stopped for almost three years. Most Christians in Bethlehem have no jobs and no

support for their families, they are living in constant fear.

Christians in the Holy Land used to comprise more than 37% of the population. There are less than 1% now. As Christians of faith, it is our duty to support our brothers and sisters in Bethlehem.

YOU can support them by purchasing some of these beautiful carvings after Mass.

For more information, please contact 202-302-5889 or visit www.BethlehemCarvings.org.



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**Nativity Book Fair: Come Judge Our Books –
And Our Covers! TODAY, Sunday, September 20 ~~
Our Book Fair is in the Cafeteria NOW
Join Us Today - 10:00 am - 2:30 pm**

Our Book Fair will feature a wide range of books suitable for all age groups and interests. From the latest children's fiction, to timeless



classics, to faith-filled titles, to compelling non-fiction, there's something for every young reader. We're stocked with selections for many of the readers in your family! This is a fantastic opportunity for you and your child to find new books to read, cherish and enjoy.

Come By and Say Hello!

Nativity Classroom Openings: Now accepting student 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.**

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 management skills
- instructions in the absence of the teacher
- Proficiency in maintaining effective classroom
- 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.



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



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*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. Please contact our Deputy Grand Knight, Stephen Resch, at dgk7992@nativityburke.org, if interested in participating in our next exemplification for new knights.

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!

17 OCT: St. Lucy Food Drive! Volunteer to help unload from donors vehicles and load into the St. Lucy truck. SUG available on the Linktree! Also, we will need all brother Knights help to distribute the blue St. Lucy bags at all Masses the weekend of 10-11 October. Help us to love our neighbors who need food assistance this fall!

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 (volunteer to sell tickets) as well as for this event (volunteer for the event)!

30 OCT: Nativity's Halloween Trunk-or-Treat is coming soon! Help needed to cook, wrap, and distribute hotdogs and water at this fun family event! SUG available on the Linktree!

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. 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.

Nativity Catholic Church



EMAIL & TEXT SCAM ALERT

Nativity Parishioners, please be aware of scammers **posing as Nativity Priests or Staff**. If you receive an email or text from any Nativity clergy or staff urgently asking you for favors, money, or personal information, this is a scam. **Please ignore and block the sender.**

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

Join the Assembly of Catholic Professionals

The Assembly of Catholic Professionals has been established by Bishop Burbidge as a ministry of the Catholic Foundation to deepen the connection between faith and professional life in the Diocese of Arlington. This new initiative brings together Catholic business and professional leaders from across the diocese to build community, grow spiritually, and support the Church's mission.

The Assembly welcomes all professionals who seek to integrate their Catholic faith into daily life. 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.

Each event features remarks from Bishop Burbidge and a keynote speaker—prominent professionals in Church, business, law, government, media, or sports—reflecting on how their Catholic faith has shaped them and offering their own perspective on the faith in their field.

Upcoming ACP Events

- September 24, 2026 - 11 am-1 pm - Westwood Country Club - Vienna
Speaker: Cardinal Seán Patrick O'Malley, Archbishop Emeritus of Boston
- December 7, 2026 - 11 am-1 pm - Archer Hotel - Tysons Corner
Speaker: Kerry Robinson, Catholic Charities USA

For more information and to register, visit:

<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/development/the-foundation/programs-1/assembly-of-catholic-professionals>



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Learn how to bring Catholic virtues into your career and everyday decisions.

Jesús, tú eres mi Pescador

Jesucristo

Jesús sabía muy bien lo que necesitamos, nos ha observado durante demasiados años nadar lejos de Él.

Por: Oscar Schmidt | Fuente: reinadelcielo.org

El hombre se despertó de madrugada en esa ciudad que no era la suya, a la que había ido tantas veces. No podía dormir. Pensó, ¿dónde estoy? con esa extraña sensación del que viaja demasiado y termina perdiendo sentido de tiempo y lugar. Ah, se dijo a sí mismo algo confundido, aquí estoy, en esta ciudad tan bendecida por la Mano de Dios. Pero no puedo dormir.

El Rosario sobre la mesita de luz del hotel llamó su atención. Es bueno rezar a estas horas, el Señor siempre lo necesita porque es el horario en que más cosas feas pasan y los buenos están durmiendo, así que es importarte llenar este espacio oscuro con oraciones ofrecidas simplemente por las intenciones del Señor, que El las use a Su mejor conveniencia.

El pensamiento atravesó su mente, “de paso ayudo a bendecir un poco esta ciudad”. El rechazo a la idea fue inmediato, ¿qué clase de bendiciones puedo pedir yo al Señor, si es que soy literalmente “un pecado” que camina? El Señor le respondió, muy breve y conciso: “eres un pescado”. Nuestro amigo se quedó sorprendido, estupefacto. Pero Señor, yo dije que soy un “pecado que camina”, ¿y cómo es que Tú me dices que soy un pescado? El Señor le volvió a responder, tan breve y con el mismo tono de la vez anterior: “yo te pesqué”.

El señor de nuestra historia rió, y el Señor de la Historia rió también. Rieron juntos. Si, soy tu pescado, le dijo, y Tú, nadie menos que Tú, eres mi Pescador. Nuestro amigo se quedó absorto en sus pensamientos, alegre de saber que él mismo era la presa de Jesús. Y entonces recordó el signo, aquel signo que precedió a la Cruz, y que fue la forma en que se reconoció al pueblo cristiano y a Cristo mismo durante los primeros siglos de la Iglesia: el Pez. Aquel signo representaba lo que él era, no un pez, sino un pescado. Y se sintió parte de esa Iglesia primitiva, se sintió en una catacumba viendo ese signo pintado una y otra vez en las paredes alumbradas por la tenue luz de las lámparas de aceite.

Y luego recordó cómo había sido pescado por Jesús. Se imaginó al Señor pensando cual era la mejor estrategia para atrapar a Su presa, para que ese pez que andaba suelto por las peligrosas aguas del mar del mundo, mordiera su anzuelo y fuera recogido a su barca, la misma barca que San Juan Bosco viera en sus sueños, la gran Barca de la Iglesia. Jesús pensó: tengo que usar el mejor señuelo, el que tenga el color y el sabor adecuados, el que mejor llame la atención de Mi presa. El estudió al hombre, miró sus costumbres, sus gustos, sus hábitos, y trazó Su plan.

El buen pescador sabe muy bien que debe tener absolutamente todo en cuenta antes de abordar su desafío: el horario del día, la transparencia y temperatura del agua, la profundidad a la que hay que buscar a la presa, y en función de ello elige su señuelo. Los que son realmente buenos pescadores diseñan y construyen ellos mismos sus señuelos, utilizando materiales que encuentran aquí y allá. Ellos miran y sopesan una y otra vez de qué modo serán capaces de atraer la atención del pez buscado, y luego se lanzan a su misión con perseverancia, hasta hacer morder el anzuelo a su presa. ¡Entonces la alegría vale doble!

Jesús sabía muy bien lo que Su presa necesitaba, la había observado durante demasiados años nadar lejos de Él. De tal modo que esta vez eligió utilizar el mejor señuelo del que disponía, uno literalmente irresistible. El lo llama de diversos modos, como Señuelo Santo, o Estrella de la Mañana, o también Rosa Mística, aunque lo más habitual es que lo llame simplemente Mamá. Con gran expectativa nuestro Pescador de hombres lanzó a las aguas del mundo a Su Gran Señuelo, y atrapó a Su presa esta vez. El pequeño hombre mordió el anzuelo con ganas, y aunque luego se resistió como todo buen pez que no quiere volverse pescado, no lo soltó nunca más.

Y así fue como se transformó en un orgulloso pescado, presa del Pescador de hombres, atrapado por no poder resistir el llamado del Señuelo Santo, de la Madrecita del mismo Dios. Nuestro amigo vio todo esto con tanta claridad que no pudo más que sonreír, abrazarse a la Cruz del Rosario, y sentirse feliz de comprender la profundidad de aquel signo que nos representa, el Pez, Ictis, símbolo de Jesucristo, Pescador de hombres. Así lo conocieron, así se presentó al mundo El desde la barca de Pedro, la misma Barca que dos mil años después sigue transportándolo por los mares del mundo, mientras El sigue pescando a hombres y mujeres de buena voluntad.



What did Jesus say to end this parable?

Write the letter that is in the first word but not the second. Then fill in the blanks.

- 1) told - old = 8) sober - rose =
- 2) deal - ale = 9) lawn - naw =
- 3) team - met = 10) wink - ink =
- 4) meal - alm = 11) time - met =
- 5) trash - star = 12) after - tear =
- 6) smile - lime = 13) kneel - leek =
- 7) moose - some = 14) rate - tea =

" 6 7 1 5 4 9 3 6 1 "

10 11 9 9 8 4 12 11 14 6 1 "

3 13 2 1 5 4 12 11 14 6 1 "

10 11 9 9 8 4 9 3 6 1 "



What happened next?

Find the underlined words in the word search below.

The landowner agreed to pay the workers and sent them into his vineyard. He went out again at nine, noon and five p.m. and hired more people to work on his land, agreeing to pay them all.



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



Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

September 20, 2026 • Matthew 20:1-16

The Workers in the Vineyard

Jesus told a parable. He said, "The kingdom of heaven is like ..."



Solve the sudoku puzzle. All the numbers 1-9 must be used once in each row, column and box. Then use the code to fill in the blanks.

5 2 5 6 d 9 1 6 7 4 1 8 9

1 7 6 t ut 9 7 5 4 2 y

3 6 t 8 7

m 9 4 6 3 6 g

t 9 8 3 4 7

1 9 4 7 4 s

f 9 4 8 3 s

v 3 6 7 5 4 d."

6	L	A	O	7	3	1	R	8
7	8	W	5	2	R	9	6	3
4	3	O	H	W	6	2	E	5
5	R	L	6	8	1	7	I	9
9	6	8	7	I	2	4	5	1
3	W	7	4	9	5	N	H	2
2	E	3	W	N	H	A	9	4
8	5	6	2	4	9	I	1	7
1	O	4	3	5	E	H	L	6

What happened when evening came?

Use this code to fill in the blanks.

♥=A ♥=D ♥=G ☆=J ☆=M ●=P ●=S ■=V ■=Y
 ♥=B ♥=E ☆=H ☆=K ☆=N ⊕=Q ⊕=T ⊕=W ⊕=Z
 ♥=C ♥=F ★=I ★=L ○=O ○=R □=U □=X

⊕ ☆ ♥ ⊕ ○ ● ☆ ♥ ● ● ⊕ ☆ ○

⊕ ♥ ● ♥ ☆ ★ ● ♥ ♥ ☆ ♥ ● ⊕

♥ ♥ ☆ ♥ ♥ ☆ ♥ ● ♥ ♥ ♥ ★ ■ ♥ ♥

♥ ♥ □ ☆ ☆ ♥ ♥ □ ● ● ♥ □ ● ○

⊕ ☆ ♥ ☆ ⊕ ☆ ○ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ☆ ♥

⊕ ☆ ○ ⊕ ♥ ♥ ☆ ★ ● ♥ ♥

♥ ★ ● ● ⊕ ⊕ ☆ ♥ ■

♥ ■ ● ♥ ♥ ⊕ ♥ ♥ ⊕ ○

● ♥ ♥ ♥ ☆ ■ ♥ ☆ ○ ● ♥ ♥ □ ⊕

♥ ○ ⊕ ⊕ ☆ ♥ ● ♥ ☆ ♥ ● ♥ ■

⊕ ☆ ♥ ☆ ♥ ☆ ♥ ○ ⊕ ☆ ♥ ♥

● ♥ ☆ ♥ ♥ ● ☆ ♥ ☆ ♥ ☆ ♥ ☆

☆ ○ ⊕ ♥ ♥ ☆ ☆ ♥ □ ☆ ♥ ♥ ☆ ●

⊕ ○ □ ○ □ ♥ ☆ ♥ ☆ ⊕ □ ○ □

♥ ♥ ● ♥ ♥ ⊕ ○ ⊕ ☆ ♥ ♥ ○ ●

⊕ ☆ ★ ● ● ♥ ■ ⊕ ♥ ☆ ♥

■ ○ □ ● ● ♥ ■ ♥ ☆ ♥ ♥ ○

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