

Share the
Kindness
you wish to receive



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

REV. MSGR. ROBERT C. CILINSKI, PASTOR
REV. JONATHAN BENNETT, PAROCHIAL VICAR
REV. JORDAN EVANS, PAROCHIAL VICAR
**REV. CEDRIC P. WILSON, ASSISTING PRIEST/
SPANISH MINISTRY**
DEC. RICHARD F. KELLY

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

Adrienne Swidal, Parish Secretary
Ann Benson, Business Manager
Carlos Gutierrez, Facility Manager
Cat Sands, Pastoral Minister
Maureen Andersen, Liturgical Minister
Johana Brown, Parish Receptionist
Diane Dellen, Receptionist/Baptism Coordinator
Caroline Chase, Receptionist/Bulletin Editor
Ana Gonzalez, Offertory/Mass Intentions
Charlie Gutierrez, Evening Receptionist
Alison Fram, Director of Young Adult & Family
Ministries/Social Action Ministries
Rebecca Judge, Director of Youth Ministry
Mary Castellano, Director of Social Media
Anna Lisa Licud, Coordinator Marriage Enrichment
Carole Fischl, Co-director of Music
Debbie Doyle, Co-director of Music
Mai Tran, Traditional Choir Director
Sara Prince, Youth Choir Director/Cornerstone Choir
Natacha Hines, Gift Shop

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

Maria Kelly, Principal
Richard Godwin, Assistant Principal
Jen Behan, Preschool Director/Extended Care Director
Shannon Murphy, Administrative Assistant/Registrar
Kim Vu, Business Manager
Mary Helen Chapman, School Secretary

MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS

EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Sister Donatella Merulla, A.R., M.R.E.
Sister Mary Attilia Todaro, A.R., M.R.E.
Fania Jimenez, Administrative Assistant
Joyce Kelly, SPRED Coordinator

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

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



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
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/](https://nativityburke.org/baptism/)

MARRIAGE POLICY: Please contact the Church as soon
as you are engaged, and at least six months prior to
your wedding date.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Announcements for the bulletin
must be submitted in writing by 11:00 AM on
Tuesday (5 days prior to publication). Please
note: this deadline can change due to holiday office
closings. Email submissions to
bulletin@nativityburke.org.

WEBMASTER:

Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Mary Castellano, socialmedia@nativityburke.org

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

A Message from our Pastor Msgr. Bob Cilinski



"But you, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness" - 1 Timothy 6:11

My dear parishioners,

Three members of Nativity parish have received Papal Honors from Pope Leo for their service to the church. The Benemerenti Medal will be formally confirmed on them by Bishop Burbidge on Sunday, September 28, 2025 at a private Solemn Vespers at 7:00pm at the Cathedral. The ceremony will be livestreamed.

Sr. Donatella and Sr. Mary Attilia have served as the Directors of the Religious Education Program at Nativity Catholic Church in Burke, Virginia for 35 years dedicating their lives to passing on the faith to a thousand children each year.

Sister Donatella Merulla, AR made her profession of vows on November 8, 1970 with the Handmaids of the Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Sister Mary Attilia Torado, AR made her profession of vows on February 3, 1960 with the Handmaids of the Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The sisters give their whole hearts to the Church and make sure that the love of Christ is known to every child who walks through the doors of Nativity. Adults remember their warm welcome when they attended first communion and confirmation classes and now, the sisters greet their children with the same joy. The sisters pray for the parish, and minister to all every day.

When people choose a religious order, they are drawn to two things: the community and its mission. The Sisters' motherhouse may be miles away (Sicily) but they have worked so intentionally to make Burke a true community rooted in prayer, enlivened by their gifts of the consecrated life and their commitment to mission. We may not all have the privilege of being *"Handmaids of the Reparation"* but we all have shared in the fruit of their work joining our parents in educating our children in faith and love for so many years.

James McDonald has been a Nativity parishioner for 45 years. He was instrumental along with the late Fr. Richard Martin, in starting our parish outreach to Haiti which was named *"Operation Starfish."* Under Jim's leadership, during the past 26 years we have built over 1600 homes in Haiti working with the organization Food For the Poor.

Jim has provided guidance and organizational support for each of the 14 villages in Haiti that we have rebuilt including schools, clinics, community centers, solar energy, fish ponds and clean water systems. Jim lives his faith and has a great love for the poor *"around the world and across the street."*

Jim has served as an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist and in various parish leadership positions. He and his wife Michele raised their two adult children in Nativity parish.

We rejoice with Sr. Mary Attilia, Sr. Donatella and Jim McDaniel for their recognition and faithful witness on September 28, which is also Sr. Donatella's birthday! *"If one part is honored, every part rejoices" - 1 Cor. 12:26.*

Msgr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

Second Collection Next Weekend: Support America's Catholic Church!



The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is a spiritual home for all Catholics in the United States. Your support of our ministry makes it possible for us to continue our important mission of ministering to all pilgrims by offering their intentions to the loving intercession of Our Lady and maintaining Mary's Shrine in the Nation's Capital. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

Nativity Voter Registration Drive - Sunday, October 5



Get ready to make your voice heard! Join us for a Voter Registration Drive being held in conjunction with Donuts following all the morning Masses on Sunday, October 5. All are welcome! You can register to vote or update your information while enjoying a delicious donut.

Don't miss this opportunity to register before the 24 October normal registration deadline for the November election. Every vote counts! Questions, contact Sam Morthland at spmorthland@gmail.com.



Life Chain



LIFE CHAIN SUNDAY

Sunday, October 5th from 2:30 to 3:30pm
Park at St. Lawrence, 6222 Franconia Road, Alexandria
Meet us on the nearby sidewalk

LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful, prayerful public witness—a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children, hurts women and men, and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception to natural death.

Join our Life Chain as part of the hundreds of thousands of Christians that hold vigil together for one hour across the United States and Canada on this First Sunday in October every year! <https://www.lifechain.net/>.

Life Chains are safe, legal and non-confrontational. We coordinate each event with the Fairfax County Police who have assured us of their support. We ask adults and youth to spend the hour standing in silent or group prayer. Small children, senior citizens and handicapped persons are welcome to sit, just bring your own chairs.

Nativity Contact: Rick Loffredo at RickLoffredo@outlook.com.



Happy Birthday
Sr. Donatella
September 28



CATHOLIC SPORTS CLUB YOUNG ADULT BASKETBALL



JOIN US ON
THURSDAYS IF
YOU'RE IN YOUR
20S OR 30S!



Starting 9/25



8:30-10:15PM

Nativity Gym (FMC)

FACEBOOK EVENT



HOLY LAND OLIVEWOOD CHRISTIAN DISPLAYS

Next weekend of October 4th and 5th, 2025, there will be a display of beautiful olive wood handmade carvings from the Holy Land in our church.

These carvings are made by the Christians of Bethlehem who use them as their main source of income. These brothers and sisters of ours are enduring hardships **Especially Now** because of the volatile situation in their home country.

Christians in the Holy Land used to be 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 us at 202-302-5889 or visit www.BethlehemCarvings.org.



NATIVITY ROSARY MINISTRY

Hello Nativity!! Happy Fall!!

The Rosary Ministry is always looking for new people to join. I have heard people say they aren't crafty. Well you don't need to be crafty. Can you count to 10? Can you measure string and cut it? Can you dip the ends of the string in nail polish? These are very important jobs that keep our Rosary makers well supplied to make Rosaries. Of course we always need new people to make Rosaries as well. All Supplies are provided by the Ministry.

We distribute our rosaries at Nativity but a majority of our rosaries are sent out into the world. We get requests from all over the world and try to fill as many as we can. One of our Rosary Makers has made over 500 rosaries for their childhood parish who doesn't have the means to buy or make rosaries on their own. Another group from Florida was looking for some rosaries for their catholic school. We were able to send them 85 Rosaries as well. This is such a beautiful Ministry and we love knowing that we are helping Mary by making these Rosaries and getting them into praying hands. Around the corner and around the world as Father Martin used to say.

If you are interested in our ministry we meet once a month and alternate Tuesdays and Sundays every other month. We do this with the hopes of getting the people who can't make it to meetings during the workday.

Our First Sunday meeting will be October 19 from 2:00-3:30pm in the Father Ready Room. We will have teachers and supplies at all the meetings. We also have bins in the office full of supplies if you can't make it to the meetings. If you have any questions you can contact us at rosaryministry@nativityburke.org.



Marriage Jubilee Mass 2025

Celebrating A Golden or Silver Wedding Anniversary this year? If you were married in 1975 or 2000, please join Bishop Michael Burbidge for the 2025 Mass for Jubilarians to be celebrated on Sunday, October 19th at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington, VA. Contact our parish office to register: **no later than October 3rd. For more info, visit** <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/event/marriagejubilee/>



Fall Marriage Enrichment Program: Joyful Ever After Summit

Friday, October 3, 2025

6:30-8:30 PM | Nativity Teachers' Lounge
Potluck Dinner

SPOUSAL SANDPAPER: BRING ON THE ABRASION!

The most difficult years of marriage are all the ones following the wedding. Too funny. Too true. But don't be duped into thinking that's bad. Join us as we take a stroll down memory lane from "You are perfect! We are made for each other" to "You are driving me crazy", to "I wouldn't want anyone else to drive me crazy!" all to help you have a few good laughs, gain a little perspective, accept your differences, embrace the trials, and thrive in this crazy, difficult, lifelong project called marriage.

Registration Link

<https://nativityburke.org/mem-program/>
Anna Lisa at marriage@nativityburke.org

ALTAR FLOWERS - Donated by

Barbara Rose
In Loving Memory of
Parents Robert and MaryEllen Goyer





Religious Education
Registration is
OPEN!
Registration for sacramental classes will close on Oct. 17th

VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR SCAN QR CODE

NATIVITYBURKE.ORG/RE

QR Code

Personal Celebrities
Jim Boucher

October second
Guardian angel feast day
Celebrate with warmth

Guardian angels
They join with us at our births
Billions on earth now

Kindred relations
Brother and sister spirits
Connections to God

They flutter their wings
Providing grace to guide us
So, receive the breeze

Perceive their signals
Uncommon occurrences
Respond naturally

Something repeated
Something extraordinary
Something viewed anew

Keep in touch daily
Pray in morning, then at night
Cite hopes, then results

Praise be to angels
Always present for our sakes
Worthy of honor



donut worry!
NEXT WEEKEND IS DONUT SUNDAY



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

Monday, September 29

7:30 am † Edward & Catherine Cilinski
12:00 pm † Judy Godsil

Tuesday, September 30

7:30 am † Lt. Mary Anne Hayes
12:00 pm † Bernice De Paepe

Wednesday, October 1

7:30 am † Federico Soto
3:00 pm † Holy Souls in Purgatory (*Sunrise*)

Thursday, October 2

7:30 am † Elena Irizarry
12:00 pm † Kerry Gorton

Friday, October 3

7:30 am † Pat McAnallen

Saturday, October 4

9:00 am † Pat McAnallen
5:00 pm † Parishioners
7:00 pm † Norma Peraldo Manyari

Sunday, October 5

7:00 am † Erika Cadran
9:00 am † Grant Butler
11:00 am America's Sea Services - Navy, Marines, Coast Guard & Merchant Marine
1:00 pm † Daniel Hunter
5:30 pm † John Nolan

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

**30-Day Eucharistic Retreat
Starts September 30!**



Join fellow parishioners – join us in a 30-Day Eucharistic Retreat. Jesus Christ desires an intimate union with every soul. That is why he instituted the holy Eucharist, for it is the memorial of Christ's Passover that is the work of salvation accomplished by the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. Christ is really present under the species of bread and wine, who is the offering of the Eucharistic sacrifice.

The 30 Day Eucharistic Revival developed by Fr. Calloway, MIC will help you rediscover and experience a revival of belief in the Real Presence of the Eucharist.

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

To register, scan the QR code or visit the Nativity Website at: <https://nativityburke.org/33-day-retreat/>.

For questions, visit our Nativity webpage or contact the 33 Day Ministry at 33DayConsecration@nativityburke.org.



It is that time of year again! Nativity's Boy Scout Troop 1100 is selling Christmas wreaths to help fund our camping activities.

All sales will be online and shipped directly to the buyer.

If you usually buy a fresh wreath, consider supporting our troop!

They make great gifts to send to family across the miles.

Sales take place in October to be assured of early December delivery.

Please use this QR code to go directly to the sales page for Troop 1100

or go to: <https://giftitforward.com> and use fundraising code:

TR1100VA001.

We will be selling after Mass on October 11/12 and November 1/2.

Questions? Please contact Elizabeth Tramel at

andrewandelizabeth@gmail.com . Thank you for your support!!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI'S LOVE FOR ALL CREATURES, WE INVITE YOUR PETS TO NATIVITY FOR A SPECIAL BLESSING BY FR. JORDAN



A CAT



A PUG



A TURTLE



AN IGUANA

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH AT 11:30AM
IN THE PARKING LOT NEAR THE GROTTO
PETS MUST BE HELD IN ARMS OR ON A LEASH
PLEASE NOTE: WEATHER PERMITTING!

5K in the Park

Sunday, October 19

Fairfax Memorial Park Cemetery
9900 Braddock Rd, Fairfax VA 22032

Registration 9:00am Run/Walk 10:00am

Be a Winner. Run for a Cause.

Register before Oct 12 at
Fairfaxmemorialfuneralhome.com

NATIVITY'S PARENT LOUNGE

RE SUNDAYS

Fr. Ready Room
7:00-8:15 PM

After dropping off your child, please stay for a few minutes or the whole time the children are at RE to enjoy light refreshments. No agenda, no sign-ups—just a chance to meet other parents and build community.

Contact Anna Lisa Licud
marriage@nativityburke.org
Marriage Enrichment Minisry



RALLY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025

ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INVITED!



What: Mass with Bishop Burbidge, Eucharistic Adoration, inspirational speakers, breakout sessions, inflatable games, music, ice cream, and more!

Cost: \$30 (includes registration, bus, snacks, dinner, & t-shirt)

Time: Depart Nativity at 11:00 a.m., return no later than 9:00 p.m.

Registration: Fill out the form on the parish website or scan the QR code. Registration closes on Wednesday, October 22 at 10:00 a.m.



Peace in the Storm

Chronic Pain and Illness Support Group

Thursday, October 9 | 12:15 -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/

Pro-Life Corner

Nativity All-Day Prayer Vigil for Life:

Friday, October 24th

Join fellow Nativity parishioners for one hour between 7am-7pm as we peacefully pray the pro-life Rosary on the sidewalk in front of abortion facility at 900 S. Washington St, Falls Church. When someone prays in front of an abortion facility, the no-show rate for appointments can go to as high as 75%!

(40 DFL) Be that someone with us! <https://bit.ly/4pdRU8>

A Never Before Seen Look At Human Life In The Womb:

Baby Olivia

From LiveAction.Org, "From a single-celled human to a baby with a beating heart, brainwaves, fingers, and toes, Olivia shows the remarkable beauty of a unique life within the womb. Baby Olivia was created by Live Action and reviewed by accredited medical professionals to show audiences the spectacular life of a baby growing within the womb. With scientific accuracy, this video depicts the moment human life begins and beyond to show the humanity of preborn children throughout each stage of human development." <https://www.liveaction.org/videos/a-never-before-seen-look-at-human-life-in-the-womb-baby-olivia>

Planned Parenthood defunding will proceed:

As reported by Live Action's Lila Rose in her 9/11/2025 email, Breaking: Planned Parenthood defunding will proceed, "the First Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that Health and Human Services can move forward with cutting off Medicaid funding to Planned Parenthood while the case continues in court. This is a major step forward in the fight to protect preborn children..."

Planned Parenthood also runs nearly 600 facilities in 31 states where they do not just end preborn lives but also push dangerous puberty blockers and cross sex hormones, even to minors as young as 16. Taxpayers should never be forced to fund an organization that profits from killing innocent children. This ruling is a victory for life and justice... We must keep fighting until Planned Parenthood is fully and permanently defunded and every child is protected under law."

Mary's Comfort of VA - Ensuring Expectant Mothers Shelter, Support and New Beginnings: Provides training in parenting and life skills, career coaching and educational advancement. maryscomfortva.org, 703.455.4500

Catholic Charities Pregnancy and Adoption Services: Provides transformative services to those impacted by unplanned pregnancy. <https://www.ccca.net/need-help/pregnancy-and-adoption-services/>, 703.841.3830

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

Project Rachel - Help after Abortion: A safe, confidential place to share your emotions and work toward healing. helpafterabortion.org, 703.841.2504.

Marian Homes - Purchases and maintains affordable homes for individuals with intellectual disabilities. marianhomes.org/

The Lamb Center - provides laundry, showers, hot meals, counseling, and financial assistance for poor and homeless. <https://nativityburke.org/service/the-lamb-center/>

Are you registered in the Parish?

If you are not receiving mail or emails from the parish, chances are you are not registered. You are free to stop by the Parish

Office to fill out a registration form to become a registered member of Nativity Parish or go online to: nativityburke.org and download one. Registration is required to be a Baptismal Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor.



Four Principles of Catholic Social Teaching*

The central and enduring themes of Catholic social teaching are organized under four principles that provide a moral framework for decisions in public life.

www.vacatholic.org

The Dignity of the Human Person

Human life is sacred. The dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Direct attacks



on innocent persons are never morally acceptable. In our society, the gravest example is abortion. Euthanasia, assisted suicide, human cloning, in vitro fertilization

and the destruction of embryos for research are others. Protecting the dignity of life also includes overcoming poverty, ending use of the death penalty, and opposing racism, torture, unjust war, human trafficking and all activities that contribute to the "throwaway culture" identified by Pope Francis.

The Common Good

The common good is achieved when social conditions allow people to reach their fulfillment more fully and easily. It



upholds the fundamental right to life, which makes all other rights possible. It asserts the right to food, shelter, education, employment, health care, housing, freedom

of religion and conscience, and family life. It requires an economy that serves people, not the other way around. It calls on employers to uphold the dignity and rights of workers by offering productive work, decent and just wages, adequate security in their old age, the choice of whether to organize and join unions and the opportunity for legal status for immigrant workers. Workers should contribute a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, treat employers and co-workers with respect and contribute to the common good. This principle requires we protect and care for all of God's creation, especially the most vulnerable among us, and the earth, our common home.

Subsidiarity

The human person is social. The family is the fundamental building block of society, based on marriage between a man



and a woman, a sanctuary for creation and nurturing of children. Policies and programs should defend, strengthen and respect this foundational unit and uphold parents'

rights and responsibilities to care for and educate their children. Further, every person and association has a right and duty to actively shape society and promote the well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. Subsidiarity means that society's larger institutions should not overwhelm or interfere with smaller or local ones. These larger institutions are obliged, however, to protect human dignity and meet human needs when smaller institutions cannot adequately do so.

Solidarity

We are one human family, despite our national, racial, ethnic, economic and ideological differences, called to love our neighbor as ourselves. We must work to



eradicate poverty, disease and racism; and welcome immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers who are seeking employment, safety, education and

a better life for their families. Solidarity requires preferential concern for the poor. A basic moral test of any society is how it treats those who are most vulnerable. This preferential option for the poor and vulnerable includes all who are marginalized – unborn children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and terminally ill, victims of injustice and oppression and immigrants.

*Adapted from *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, Nos. 44-56, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2015.

YOUTH MINISTRY

LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12

DINNER - FELLOWSHIP - PRAYER & FORMATION

Sundays | 6:30-8:30 p.m.



EDGE: GRADES 6-8

Fridays twice a month:
6:30-8:00 p.m.

See website for full schedule



REGISTER FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

Whether your child is new or returning, please fill out our 2025-2026 registration form. There is no cost to register, and this form only needs to be filled out once per year. It includes all Diocesan required waivers for on-site gatherings at Nativity. Head to our website to access the forms.

[See website for full schedule](#)

Before attending, please register for the 2024-2025 year of ministry using our free, online forms.

✉ cym@nativityburke.org 📷 [@nativitycym](https://www.instagram.com/nativitycym)

Pray the Pro-Life Rosary with Us!

When: Usually Fridays after Nativity's 7:30am Mass.

Where: 900 S. Washington Street, Falls Church. Join Nativity in peacefully praying the Pro-Life Rosary on the sidewalk in front of the Falls Church abortion facility for mothers in need and for the protection of human life.



Former abortion workers report that when someone prays in front of an abortion facility, the "no-show" rate for abortion appointments can go to as high as 75 percent! Be that someone. (40 Days for Life).

Contact rickloffredo@outlook.com to join us!

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

Men's 144th Arlington Cursillo Retreat

MON, Nov 10 - THUR, Nov 13, 2025

San Damiano Spiritual Life Center, White Post, VA



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

You will:

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

For more information visit: <https://www.arlingtoncursillo.org/>

If you are interested and would like to learn more feel free to contact lauralaverdiere@msn.com.

DIOCESAN CAR MINISTRY

The Car Ministry accepts vehicles, reconditions them and then provides them as a gift to low-income families referred by pastors and social agencies. Click on the "Donate your Car" link on the Car Ministry's website, www.carministry.org, or contact the charity's Director, Larry Gordon at 703.237.8479 for more info.

PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC):

We are a social group, mostly aged 60 and over. (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate group.) Meet us for: Mass at St. Louis Church/visit to Poor Clares Monastery (Oct. 5); Thursday lunches (Oct. 9 & 23); dinner in Ashburn (Oct. 11); tour of historic Rippon Lodge and Neabsco Creek Boardwalk (Oct. 18); Ocean City Beach Days (Oct. 24-27); serving meal at Christ House (Oct. 25); ancient cemeteries tour/dinner in Alexandria (Oct. 26); Annual Dinner Dance (Nov. 15). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.



St. Lucy Fall Food Drive:

Saturday, October 25th from 9:00AM-1:00PM

The St. Lucy Fall Food Drive will take place from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday, October 25 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 18 and 19 October, 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!



NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

nativityschool.org



Family Science Night: Little Scientists, Big Fun

It was a night filled with Science, Smiles – and Slime!! Several parents operated interactive Science centers during Nativity's Family Science Night, sponsored by the Children's Science Center, in Fair Oaks, Virginia, offering families the opportunity to rotate around the room, stopping to interact at 10 different Science stations. From a center where you design an object to fly through a wind tunnel, to one where you turn a two-dimensional plan into a three-dimensional object, to actually designing a "slime" piano, and so much more, the night was engineered for success.

Recently recognized – both nationally and internationally – for our STEM program, we offer these learning opportunities everywhere here at Nativity.



Important Upcoming Dates ~

- Mon, Sep 29 - No School/Professional Development
- Fri, Oct 3 - Virtue Awards Bestowed at Mass
- Fri, Oct 3 - Blessing of Animals (School only) 2:15-2:45 p.m.
- Fri, Oct 3 - PTO Board Game Night 6:00-9:30 p.m.
- Mon, Oct 6 - 7th Grade Virtue Presentation
- Fri, Oct 10 - 12:00 p.m. Dismissal

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

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

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

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



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



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

Please email our Deputy Grand Knight, Vince Augelli, at dkg7992@nativityburke.org or the Grand Knight, Michael Bender at gk7992@nativityburke.org with any questions.

Council Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. First meeting is a business meeting, the second meeting of the month is devoted to faith formation. Rosary 7:15 PM; meeting at 7:30 PM. Fellowship follows. Meet in the Nativity school cafeteria.

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>

5 October, Donut Sunday and Recruitment Drive: Knights will host the Oct. Donut Sunday in the Fr. Martin Center and run a Recruiting table. Please consider helping out after Mass. See BOTH LinkTrees for details (Donuts and Recruitment). This event needs an Event Coordinator!

5 October, Life Chain: Join fellow believers gathering nationwide on the first Sunday of every October to prayerfully stand for Life. Park at St. Lawrence Catholic Church and meet on the sidewalk at Franconia Road from 2:30-3:30pm. Signs will be available. life7992@nativityburke.org.

24 October: Need eight more Knights to lead the pro-life Rosary (1-hour time slots from 7am-7pm) during the All-Day Prayer Vigil for Life. Join fellow Nativity parishioners on Friday, October 24th, for a peaceful 40 Days For Life All-Day Prayer Vigil for Life. We will be praying the pro-life Rosary on the sidewalk at 900 S Washington Street, Falls Church. Our prayers are for an end to abortion, for mothers in crisis, and for the conversion of all who support abortion. See the LinkTree for more details and sign up!

Linktree Universal Sign-up Link: Volunteer for an event! Scroll down to view all events. https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992.

Food for Others: Volunteer for food distribution to the poor, delivered on designated Thursday or Friday evenings. For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyermark7992@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.

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

The Fraternal Committee: Brothers helping brothers in need of assistance. Brothers and their families (living and deceased) in need of a helping hand, contact Br. John Landy at navy8@yahoo.com.

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

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



NATIVITY STARS BASKETBALL



REGISTRATION

Registration opens October 5th

All boys and girls in grades 3-8 in Nativity's Religious Education Program or enrolled in Nativity Catholic School are welcomed to register


Register at <https://nativityburke.org/cyo-basketball/>

PRACTICES AND GAMES

Practices begin late October
Games run from December to March

VOLUNTEERS

Coaching and volunteer roles are available.
Please reach out if interested!



**FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT
CYOSPORTS@NATIVITYBURKE.ORG**



A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family comes together for a celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. During this Season of Creation we celebrate God as Creator. We are part of all that God has made. Our well-being is interwoven with the well-being of the Earth. This year, the theme for the season is "Peace with Creation." Creation is God's sacred gift, entrusted to our care. Christians are called to protect and nurture Creation in peace, working in partnership with others and passing this responsibility on to future generations. Its deep interconnectedness makes peace both essential and fragile. Pope Francis challenged us: "What is the goal of our work? What need does the Earth have of us? Leaving an inhabitable planet to future generations is up to us" (*Laudato Si'*, 160).

Creation Care partnered with the Marriage Ministry at the Heroes Hike recently. Walking around the beautiful natural habitat of Lake Mercer, Creation Care Ministry (CCM) member, Kathy Walters, encouraged participants to focus on gratitude and a commitment to its protection. They observed two very important species in the park, easily visible at this time of year. The first was oak trees. She gave a quick fun biology lesson - plants capture energy from the sun and turn it into sugars and carbohydrates. Most animals don't eat plants directly, they eat insects, mostly caterpillars. Caterpillars transfer more energy from plants to other animals than any other plant eater. Oak trees support the growth and reproduction of the most caterpillars and they are known as a keystone species for this reason. Without caterpillars, we have few baby birds. The acorns are just starting to drop. Most oaks are not planted by squirrels, but by jays. One jay can bury 4500 acorns per fall and only remember where 1 in 4 are. And they help spread oaks because they can carry an acorn more than a mile. The group also observed asters in bloom along the path. They are a critical food resource for fall migrating butterflies and native bees.

Kathy shared that CCM will be celebrating with the parish in November during the week of service. We will be distributing small native seedlings that you can plant in your yard or a friend's to help increase biodiversity in our neighborhoods. We look forward to sharing God's Creation further with you then!

ECHO Collection NEXT weekend, 4/5 October Food Room Most Needed Items

Thank you for including ECHO Food Room needs on your shopping list. The USDA calculates that a meal for one persons is considered to be 1.2 pounds of food. Thus far this fiscal year ECHO has distributed 288,560 pounds of food which converts to 240,466 meals given to our neighbors in Burke and Springfield. Thank you donors for your generosity in helping our neighbors. Your help is greatly appreciated. We collected 896 lbs on September 6/7.

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

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

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

St. Mary's Seminary Vocations Weekend

Spending a weekend at a seminary is a critical part of exploring your vocation. You live, pray, eat and recreate with seminarians and experience first-hand what seminary life is like.

Join Vocations Director Father Noah Morey for a weekend at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The group departs northern Virginia Friday, November 21 at 5:30 p.m. and returns Sunday November 23 in the afternoon. Cost is \$40.

Contact the Office of Vocations for more info and to register: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org or 703-841-2514. The deadline to register for this trip is Monday November 10.

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

October 2025



Register to Vote!

This fall, voters will select candidates for Governor, Lt. Gov., Attorney General and the House of Delegates.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: OCT. 24

Visit vote.elections.virginia.gov
or scan the QR code to:

- Register online.
- Check registration status.
- Find your polling place.
- Request Absentee Ballot.



FOR MORE INFO:

vacatholic.org/Election2025

EARLY VOTING BEGINS SEPT. 19.

ELECTION DAY IS NOV. 4.

What's college seminary like? See for yourself!

Quo Vadis Father-Son Seminary Visit

**Saturday
November 15
9 am - 2pm**

\$15 per person

Quo Vadis events are for young men in high school interested in growing in their spiritual life and exploring their vocation.



Meet the seminarians and their formators
See where they live, pray, eat and study
Tour their campus at Catholic University

Fathers are welcome but not required.



For more information and to register, visit
ArlingtonDiocese.org/QuoVadis.

Deadline to register is November 3

Sponsored by the Office of Vocations

703.841.2514 /

vocations@arlingtondiocese.org





The rich man didn't help other people while he lived. He thought only of himself.

How can you help others and live as Jesus taught?
Here are some ideas. Unscramble the words.

arCe rfo het cksi

siVit oenlly eplpoe



deFe oeths how

aer ughnyr

aretT vroeeayne

idyknl

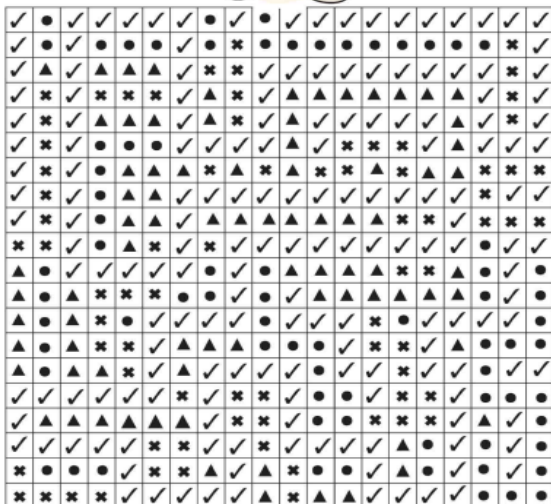
Both Lazarus and the rich man died.
Lazarus was carried to Abraham's side.



Follow the symbol that leads Lazarus to Abraham.
Move only in a straight line with no diagonals.



Angels carried him to Abraham's side.



Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

September 28, 2025 • Luke 16:19-31

The Rich Man and Lazarus

Jesus told a parable about a rich man. "Who am I?"

Use the code graph to find the answers.

1	A	H	M	P	T
2	C	I	N	R	U
3	E	L	O	S	Z
4	5	6	7	8	

I wear purple and fine linen.
I live in luxury.



I sit by the gate and beg.
I have sores on my body.
I would love to have the crumbs from a table.



1,8 1,5 3,4 2,7 2,5 2,4 1,5

3,5 1,4 3,8 1,4 2,7 2,8 3,7

1,6 1,4 2,6

The rich man asked Abraham to send Lazarus with some cool water to help him.
What did Abraham say?

Begin at the arrow. Read every other letter.
Go clockwise. Go around 2 times.



Desde el pecado hacia el amor Dolor y la muerte

Para el cristiano, el pecado es siempre una grave ofensa al amor. El pecado lleva al hombre a ir contra Dios.

Por: P.Fernando Pascual LC | Fuente: Catholic.net



El pecado deja huellas profundas y heridas duraderas. Uno de sus mayores daños consiste en hundir al pecador en la tristeza, la amargura, la desesperanza. Otro daño es el de la dejadez: si caigo una y otra vez en lo mismo, ¿para qué luchar por el cambio? Un daño más profundo y sutil consiste en llegar a la idea de que, en el fondo, el pecado no es tan malo, incluso podría ser bueno para uno en su situación actual...

Para el cristiano, el pecado es siempre una grave ofensa al amor. El pecado lleva al hombre a ir contra Dios, al optar por su egoísmo, y contra el prójimo, al preferir el propio bienestar en perjuicio de otros.

Pero si la ofensa es grave, si implica un desorden en el universo, la mano tendida de Dios puede provocar un cambio radical, incluso una situación paradójicamente favorable para el bien.

El pecador que pide misericordia, que se siente perdonado, permite el ingreso en el mundo de una inmensa infusión de bien y de esperanza. La acción de Dios, al ofrecer su perdón, suscita en los corazones una "nueva creación".

"Convertíos y apartaos de todos vuestros crímenes; no haya para vosotros más ocasión de culpa. Descargaos de todos los crímenes que habéis cometido contra mí, y hacedos un corazón nuevo y un espíritu nuevo. ¿Por qué habéis de morir, casa de Israel? Yo no me complazco en la muerte de nadie, sea quien fuere, oráculo del Señor Yahvéh. Convertíos y vivid" (Ez 18,30-32).

El corazón que se deja tocar por el perdón de Dios entra en una nueva vida, empieza a existir en el Reino de la misericordia. Si antes sufría bajo las cadenas del pecado, ahora goza en el mundo del amor.

Los que antes éramos "no-pueblo" podemos llegar a ser Pueblo de Dios. Los que vivíamos sin compasión, podemos ahora ser compadecidos (cf. 1P 2,10).

La Encarnación, la Muerte, la Resurrección de Cristo, han abierto las puertas de los cielos, han abierto las puertas de la misericordia. Si el pecado introdujo el misterio del mal en el mundo, la obediencia del Hijo al Padre ha provocado la revolución más profunda en la historia humana: el perdón.

Quien acoge ese perdón, quien se deja tocar por el Amor redentor de Cristo, ya no puede volver a pensar ni a vivir como pecador. Paradójicamente, el pecado "provocó" la llegada de la gracia. Quien ha sido tocado por la misericordia, quien ha abierto su alma a la conversión, empieza a vivir en el mundo del amor.

"¿Qué diremos, pues? ¿Que debemos permanecer en el pecado para que la gracia se multiplique? ¡De ningún modo! Los que hemos muerto al pecado ¿cómo seguir viviendo en él? ¿O es que ignoráis que cuantos fuimos bautizados en Cristo Jesús, fuimos bautizados en su muerte? Fuimos, pues, con él sepultados por el bautismo en la muerte, a fin de que, al igual que Cristo fue resucitado de entre los muertos por medio de la gloria del Padre, así también nosotros vivamos una vida nueva. Porque si nos hemos hecho una misma cosa con él por una muerte semejante a la suya, también lo seremos por una resurrección semejante; sabiendo que nuestro hombre viejo fue crucificado con él, a fin de que fuera destruido este cuerpo de pecado y cesáramos de ser esclavos del pecado" (Rm 6,1-6).

Desde el pecado, borrado por la Cruz del Señor, podemos avanzar hacia el amor. Quien ha recibido tanto amor, sólo puede responder con amor. Quien ha sido perdonado, empieza a comprender que también él necesita perdonar a sus hermanos (cf. Lc 6,37).

Sólo entonces seremos semejantes al Padre de los cielos, que es bueno con todos, también con los ingratos y los perversos (cf. Lc 6,35).

Porque tristemente un día fui pecador. Pero Jesús, en su bondad, me dijo: "Tampoco yo te condeno. Vete, y en adelante no peques más" (Jn 8,11).

Reclutamiento de Miembros Activos de Legion de Maria

La Legión de María Praesidium Nuestra Señora de la Natividad se reúne todos los jueves de 6:00 a 7:30 pm en el salón # 2 de la Iglesia Nativity. Nuestro objetivo es procurar la santidad de la comunidad y servir a Dios a través de la Virgen Maria haciendo un trabajo apostolico solido. El trabajo apostolico es de un mínimo de dos horas a la semana Para los miembros activos. Algunos de los trabajos de los legionarios incluyen visita a los hogares que solicitan la imagen de la Virgen de nuestra legión, visita a los enfermos, en sus casas u hospitales, asistir a la comunidad para que puedan registrarse para sus sacramentos y oración por sus necesidades espirituales. Si estás interesado en unirte a la Legionde Maria o tienes alguna necesidad espiritual o necesitas mas informacion, comunícate con Anumzziatta Purchiaroni al 703-209-8693 (por favor deja tu mensaje por texto y yo me comunicare contigo lo mas pronto posible) Gracias y bendiciones.



Participantes en la promoción del bien común **Septiembre de 2025**

Como votantes en Virginia, en el otoño del presente año elegiremos a quienes ocuparán próximamente los cargos de Gobernador, Vicegobernador y Fiscal General. También decidiremos quiénes ocuparán los 100 escaños en la Cámara de Delegados de Virginia. El Día de las Elecciones es el 4 de noviembre. La votación anticipada comienza el 19 de septiembre.

Como nos recuerda el *Catecismo*, “Es necesario que todos participen, cada uno según el lugar que ocupa y el papel que desempeña, en promover el bien común.... Deben, cuanto sea posible, tomar parte activa en la *vida pública*” (Nos. 1913-1915).

Para promover el bien común, debemos formar nuestra conciencia y votar, reconociendo que:

- Muchos asuntos son importantes.
- No todos los asuntos tienen el mismo peso moral.
- La protección de la vida es de fundamental importancia.

Ante todo, abordar la tragedia del aborto es la “máxima prioridad porque ataca directamente a nuestros hermanos y hermanas más vulnerables y sin voz y destruye más de un millón de vidas al año solo en nuestro país” (*Formando la conciencia para ser ciudadanos fieles*, Nota introductoria, Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos, 2023).

La Conferencia Católica de Virginia (VCC) ha preparado un conjunto de recursos para educación de los votantes, con el fin de ayudar a formar la conciencia y proporcionar información oportuna. Visiten el sitio web vacatholic.org/Election2025 para ver estos materiales.



Instamos a las parroquias a distribuir cada uno de los recursos de la VCC, especialmente los siguientes:

- **La comparación preparada por la VCC sobre los candidatos a la carrera electoral para los cargos de Gobernador, Vicegobernador y Fiscal General**, que presenta la postura de cada uno de los candidatos sobre los asuntos de importancia y;
- **El recurso titulado *Propuestas de enmiendas constitucionales: ¡Permanezcan vigilantes!***, que explica tres propuestas de enmiendas a la Constitución de Virginia. Estas propuestas ya han pasado por parte del proceso correspondiente en la Asamblea General. Una de ellas permitiría prácticamente el aborto ilimitado en cualquier etapa del embarazo. Los legisladores que elijamos en la campaña electoral para cargos en la Cámara de Delegados en noviembre de este año decidirán si estas propuestas de enmiendas constitucionales siguen adelante.

Con tantas cosas en juego, debemos prepararnos para participar en las decisiones críticas referentes a la votación de este año, por medio de formación de la conciencia, oración y ayuno. Unidos en la Eucaristía, recemos los unos por los otros y unámonos como activos participantes en la promoción del bien común.

Fielmente en Cristo,

Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge
Obispo de la Diócesis de Arlington

Monseñor Barry C. Knestout
Obispo de la Diócesis de Richmond



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