



1973 **Nativity** CATHOLIC CHURCH 2023
 Burke, Virginia
Celebrating 50 Years!
"We are God's people" - 1 Peter 2:10

6400 Nativity Lane,
 Burke, Virginia 22015
 nativityburke.org

REV. ROBERT C. CILINSKI, PASTOR
 REV. EDWARD BRESNAHAN, PAROCHIAL VICAR
 REV. JONATHAN BENNETT, PAROCHIAL VICAR
 REV. CEDRIC P. WILSON, ASSISTING PRIEST/
 SPANISH MINISTRY
 DEC. RICHARD F. KELLY

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

Adrienne Swidel, Parish Secretary
 Ann Benson, Business Manager
 Carlos Gutierrez, Facility Manager
 Cat Sands, Pastoral Minister
 Maureen Andersen, Liturgical Minister
 Johana Brown, Parish Receptionist
 Anna Marty, Receptionist/Baptism Coordinator
 Caroline Chase, Receptionist/Bulletin Editor
 Ayse Kenner, Mass Intentions
 Alison Fram, Director of Young Adult & Family
 Ministries/College Ministry
 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.
 Maria Ammirati, Religious Education Coordinator
 Fania Jimenez, Administrative Assistant

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454-2415



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
 CCD OFFICE: (703) 455-0372
 CCD 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.

WEEKDAY MASSES: 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday
 12:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday
 9:00 a.m. on Saturday

HOLY DAY MASSES: As Announced

RECONCILIATION: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. on Saturday
 or, if necessary, by appointment

BAPTISM: For more information and how to schedule a
 baptism, please visit our website:
<https://nativityburke.org/baptism/>

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

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Announcements for the bulletin
must be submitted **in writing** by 9:00 AM on
 Tuesday (5 days prior to publication). Please note: this
 deadline can change due to holiday office closings.
 You may email submissions to
bulletin@nativityburke.org.

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**

31st
 Sunday
 in
 Ordinary
 Time

"Whoever exalts
 himself will
 be humbled;
 but whoever
 humbles himself
 will be exalted."

Matthew 23:12

**A Message from our Pastor
Fr. Bob Cilinski**



*"The greatest among you are those who serve."
Mt.23:1-12*

My dear parishioners,

The word minister comes from the Latin: "mini, stare." Mini means small and stare means stand. To minister is to "stand small"..... to bend low and become small and on the same level with another. Jesus teaches us about service as the way to true greatness. Servant leadership is the example that Jesus showed us as he washed the feet of his disciples.

This is National Vocations Awareness Week where we pray that young people will hear and respond to God's call to vocations of love, marriage, priesthood, religious life, and the single life. God calls men and women in every age to lives of holiness and service.

Let us join our prayers and encouragement to the next generation to be open to God's call to greatness through lives of loving service. Below are prayers for us to use as a family and as individuals. Peace.

Love and blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski
Fr. Bob Cilinski
Pastor

Prayer to Discover my Vocation

Heavenly Father, if I am called to the vocation of Holy Matrimony, lead me to my future spouse. Keep us holy and pure that we may grow in love for You and each other.

Lord, if I am called to another vocation in the Church, give me the courage to say "yes." Help me to be a faithful instrument of Your grace for the souls entrusted to my care.

Please place holy people in my life to assist on this path of discovering my vocation that I may become an effective witness of Your love to the world.

*I ask this through the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary, and in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ.
Amen*

Children's Prayer for Vocations

*Jesus, I know that You love me.
Teach me how to talk to You, how to listen to You,
and how to follow You.*

*Bless religious sisters, brothers, and priests.
Bless my family.
Keep all of us close to Your heart.
Amen*

Prayer of a Husband and Wife

*O God, You have united us in the bond of Holy Matrimony; give us wisdom in our decisions, strength in our trials, humility in our triumphs, and charity at all times. Make us courageous witnesses of Your love in the world. Bless and protect us as we journey towards holiness.
Guide us safely home to You and to our eternal reward.
Amen*

Knight of Columbus Mass of Remembrance

In Roman Catholicism All Souls Day is commemorated each November. The Knights of Columbus will have its annual Mass of Remembrance for Brothers and Spouses that have gone before us on Monday, 6 November at 6:45pm in the Nativity church. The Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Bob Cilinski. Any questions, please contact Fraternal Committee Chair, Br. John Landy at navyy8@yahoo.com.

**JOIN US IN FUNDRAISING
FOR OUR NATIVITY SISTERS' ORDER**

HANDMAIDS OF REPARATION OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

PROCEEDS WILL ASSIST WITH THEIR PROJECTS IN:

- BUILDING A CONVENT AND SCHOOL IN CONGO
- EDUCATION AND SUPPLIES FOR OUR RELIGIOUS SISTERS
- SUPPLIES FOR THE IVORY COST CLINIC AND SCHOOL



**DINE IN AND CARRY OUT ALL DAY ON
NOVEMBER 14TH & 15TH**



SPARTAN'S FAMILY RESTAURANT

When you place your order on the phone or in person make sure you tell them you are supporting the

"Nativity Sisters' Fundraiser"

to make sure that proceeds will be donated to our Sisters

Gifts can be also purchased on their website.

Enter code: Nativity Sisters

to ensure our Sisters receive credit

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR ORDER AND THEIR MISSIONS, VISIT THEIR WEBSITE:
HANDMAIDSOFPREPARATION.ORG



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



The Knights of Columbus invite all the Children of Nativity Parish to join them in the Parish Cafeteria on Saturday morning, December 2nd from 9:30AM to 11:00AM for fun, fellowship and a chance to meet and have breakfast with Santa.

There will be a continental breakfast, Christmas crafts and a little something from Santa for all boys and girls who attend. So that Santa knows you will be there, we request you let his elves know that you plan to attend; send them your family name, and the number of children and adults coming. You can use whichever way is best for you: email to bpb7992@gmail.com or text to 703-402-8513.

Please be aware that the Church, parking lots and Church grounds are private property. Campaigning, placement of political signs or distribution of flyers for political campaigns, is strictly prohibited.

**OPENING OF THE MASS INTENTIONS
CALENDAR FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2024
SCHEDULED FOR
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9th AT 9:00AM**

Please read the guidelines below to schedule intentions

Due to the large size of our parish, we can honor a maximum of 5 Mass Intention requests per year, per family/household. We are currently opening the calendar for Mass Intentions from *January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 only.*

We try our best to accommodate requested dates but some dates might be unavailable (i.e. Novena Masses etc.). In case of unavailability, we will try our best to schedule on the closest date possible. We greatly appreciate your patience, kindness and understanding as we try to accommodate many requests!

Please stop by the parish office to schedule Mass Intentions or you can visit: <https://nativityburke.org/mass-intentions/> to request intentions online. Your online Mass intention request is **NOT** scheduled until we verify availability of the requested date(s) and you have received an email confirmation!! We are not able to honor phone requests. If you have any additional questions, please email Ayse Kenner at akenner@nativityburke.org.

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

The Gift shop still has several White House Ornaments for sale. They each cost \$22 (including tax). Get yours while they are still available!

**FALL MARRIAGE
ENRICHMENT**



Program



Come to ANY or ALL of the remaining sessions!
Fridays from 6:30-8:30 PM
Teachers Lounge
NOVEMBER

Rev **10, 17**
marriage@nativityburke.org
or see Upcoming Events in the parish website

Family Ministry

Connecting families from the time you are expecting through elementary school



Have you been looking for a way to connect with Catholic families for community, encouragement, and growth? There are MANY families with young children at Nativity and in our ministry, "family" encompasses families in all shapes and sizes- married couples, single parents, adopted children, one child, multiple children, etc.

**Support Our Seminarians
Help Build the Future of Our Diocese
Make Your Gift Today!**



Mail your check made out to:
Foundation for CDA-SEEF
200 N. Glebe Rd., Suite 811
Arlington, VA 22203

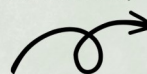
CONTACT: John French • john.french@arlingtondiocese.org

To make a gift online:
https://arlingtondiocese.org/Donate_SEEF

NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Young Adult Ministry

- WHO ARE WE? WE ARE AN ALL-INCLUSIVE GROUP OF YOUNG ADULTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 19-39 WHO ARE IN THE "MIDDLE" WHETHER THEY ARE SINGLE, NEWLY MARRIED, WITH OR WITHOUT CHILDREN, OR PERHAPS A RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATE!
- WHAT DO WE OFFER? SMALL GROUPS, FELLOWSHIP, SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES, BASKETBALL, ETC.





Prepare and vote: Read the Bishop’s Letter and other VCC resources

This week, voters will elect members to all 140 seats in the Virginia General Assembly, as well as other offices in some localities. Much is at stake!

Election Day is November 7. New General Assembly maps are in effect for this year’s elections. To help you prepare, please visit the VCC Election Resource hub (Link below). There you can view, download and print the following materials, three of which are newly released and one of which is re-issued:

- A pre-election letter from Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Knestout
- A Register to Vote flyer explaining how to register, eligibility and key dates
- A New Political Maps flyer to help you find your new districts and the candidates
- A re-issued Four Principles of Catholic Social Teaching resource.

Please review these materials. Share them with family and friends too, and remind them to pray, form their consciences and vote! **For more information visit: vacatholic.org.**



In Observance of Veterans Day, the Parish Office will be closed all day on Friday, November 10th. Morning Mass will be at 7:30am, there will be no school Mass.

National Vocation Awareness Week will be celebrated in our country from November 5-11, 2023. Please ask Our Lord for more dedicated, holy priests, deacons, and consecrated men and women. May they be inspired by Jesus Christ, supported by our faith community, and respond generously to God's gift of vocation.

*God our Father,
We thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son’s Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call.
May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen*

Subscribe to the
MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT MINISTRY

MONTHLY FLOCKNOTE

Ana Lisa
Marriage Enrichment Ministry Coordinator
marriage@nativityburke.org



Bishop Burbidge's Message for National Vocation Awareness Week

My dear young friends,

I address you this Vocation Awareness Week drawing on the words of Pope Francis from World Youth Day: “All of us were called by name. At the beginning of the story of our lives, before any talents we may have, before any shadows or wounds we may be carrying in our hearts, we were called. Why? Because we are loved.”

Let that sink in: God loves you, and he calls you by name for a unique and wonderful plan for your life. For many of you, this will be as a husband and father or wife and mother. In God's mysterious plan, he calls some to the priesthood and religious life, to offer themselves entirely to the service of the Church. This can be unexpected, but as Pope Francis also reminded the young people in Portugal, “God loves surprises,” adding, “he always keeps us alert, and he keeps us surprised.” This is not something to be feared, but rather embraced, trusting in God the Father who loves us.

I encourage you this week to focus not only on the vocation we all have, to be holy, but also on the personal vocation to which God is calling you. Are you willing to spend some time with him? Are you willing to let him lead you, to surprise you, to lead you to a holiness you never thought possible?

Know of my prayers for you, as your Bishop who wants to see each of you fulfilled as God's beloved sons and daughters.

The Knights of Columbus - Ladies Auxiliary

Formed to assist and support the Knights, our Church and the four virtues of Charity, Unity, Sorority and Patriotism. We are spouses, daughters, mothers, or sisters of Knights of Columbus who are in good standing or deceased.

Our fellowship and informational meetings are the First Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Fr. Ready Room.

Contact kdelatte65@gmail.com for information or to be added to our email distribution list.

The Women of Nativity (WON) Annual Advent Tree

IT IS TIME AGAIN FOR THE ANNUAL WOMEN OF NATIVITY (WON) ADVENT TREE PROJECT. WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THIS UPCOMING EVENT AND ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO OUR FAITHFUL PARTNERS, THE GENEROUS PARISHIONERS OF OUR CHURCH!

PLEASE PICK THE ORNAMENTS OF YOUR CHOICE ON NOVEMBER 11, 12, 18 & 19 AND RETURN THE REQUESTED GIFTS TO THE CHURCH NARTHEX ON THE COLLECTION DATES OF NOVEMBER 25 & 26 AND DECEMBER 2 & 3.

WRAPPING INSTRUCTIONS FOR EACH NEWLY PURCHASED GIFT ARE ON THE BACK OF THE ORNAMENT. SEVERAL OF THE ORGANIZATIONS WE SERVICE HAVE REQUESTED THE GIFTS BE UNWRAPPED FOR EASIER DISTRIBUTION AND TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF THEIR PROGRAM INVOLVING YOUNG CHILDREN. PLEASE SECURELY ATTACH THE ORNAMENT YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO THE GIFT. THIS HELPS US GREATLY IN SEPARATING AND BAGGING THE GIFTS FOR THE VARIOUS GROUPS.

GIFT CARDS SHOULD BE PLACED IN AN ENVELOPE WITH THE RECIPIENT MARKED ON THE OUTSIDE. PLEASE WRITE GIFT CARD \$ AMOUNT ON THE GIFT CARD. IT IS EASIER TO HANDLE GIFT CARDS IF THEY ARE NOT WRAPPED.

WE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT AND PRAYERS FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL ADVENT TREE PROJECT.



It is important to return gifts on the scheduled dates to meet the delivery requirements of the charities. It would be sad if we could not fulfill a child's request. Again, we thank our caring parishioners who will make this a special and happy holiday for many of our less fortunate neighbors! Please feel free to contact Patrice Chadbourne at patdavchad@yahoo.com or Kathy Mc Hugh at irish5579@gmail.com with any questions.



Charity Ornaments	Charity's Name & Description
PURPLE CHRISTMAS BALL	SOME (SO OTHERS MIGHT EAT)
LIGHT GREEN HOUSE	APPALACHIAN HOME BUILDING PROJECT: HELPING THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COLLECT ITEMS FOR THE FAMILY WHO WILL RECEIVE A NEW HOME IN KENTUCKY NEXT JUNE
PINK LAUNDRY BASKET	LAUNDRY LOVE: HELPS INDIVIDUALS AND/OR FAMILIES ONCE A MONTH AT A LOCAL LAUNDROMAT. PROVIDES CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO THE CHILDREN OF THE FAMILIES.
RED ORNAMENT	NATIVITY PARISH FAMILIES IN NEED/SISTERS CHARITIES
YELLOW CHRISTMAS BALL	HISPANIC OUTREACH PROGRAM
GREEN CHRISTMAS BALL	ECHO - CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS GIFTS
BLUE CHRISTMAS BALL	ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH, WASHINGTON D.C. KID'S GIFTS
ORANGE GINGERBREAD MEN	FATHER WILSON'S COUNSELING PROJECT
WHITE CHRISTMAS BALL	LORTON COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER: WORKING TO BREAK CYCLE OF POVERTY AND PREVENT HOMELESSNESS THROUGH A VARIETY OF SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
SALMON CHRISTMAS BALL	MIGRATION & REFUGEE SERVICES/ CATHOLIC CHARITIES: HOUSEHOLD ITEMS TO HELP FAMILIES GET SETTLED IN THEIR NEW COUNTRY
DIVINE MERCY CARE (DMC)	COMMITTED TO HELPING ALL WOMEN ACCESS PRO-LIFE MEDICAL CARE BY PARTNERING WITH PRO-LIFE DOCTORS TO BUILD THE CULTURE OF LIFE. ALSO PROVIDE CHARITY SUPPORT TO TEPEYAC OB/GYN IN FAIRFAX
GABRIEL PROJECT	CATHOLIC CHARITY SPONSORED; DONATIONS ASSIST UNWED MOTHERS WITH PRE/POST-NATAL NEEDS
HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL	WORK OF THE ORDER OF MALTA, PROVIDING STATE-OF-THE-ART PEDIATRIC, OBSTETRIC, AND GYNECOLOGICAL CARE TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF THE HOLY LAND
MULTI-COLORED SMALL TAGS	SENIORS OF ALEXANDRIA - GIFT CARDS FOR RESIDENTS OF ANNIE B. ROSE HOUSE



• LARAINÉ BENNETT •

ART OF LIVING WITH LESS



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT MINISTRY
DATE NIGHT
 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH
 CAFETERIA FROM 6-8:30 PM

Childcare Provided | Refreshments | Fellowship

SENIOR BRUNCH



Monday,
 November 6

10:00am-12:30pm
 Mass & Brunch

Seniors, join us for a delicious brunch and meaningful conversation with your peers. Together we'll explore how God is calling you in this next season of life after high school.

NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

RSVP to Rebecca: cym@nativityburke.org



Keep Christ in Christmas Nativity Displays - \$75



Delivered in time for Advent!

If you are interested in purchasing one like this one with your own custom caption, please scan the QR Code below and use the form to complete your order.

Or email: handyknightsofnativity@gmail.com, and we will email you a copy of the online form.

Limited Supply – We only make 30 each year



ALTAR FLOWERS - Donated by



Bridget Fullenkamp
In Loving Memory of
Gerard Jude Barrett

All Are Invited

Thursday, November 9, at 7 pm

Saint Joseph Room, 313 Duke Street

The Very Rev. Edward C. Hathaway,
the Pastor and Rector of the Basilica of Saint Mary,
Will Be the Speaker



Rev. Fr. Peter Clem, YA, with
Seminarian Luke Helbling and the Daughters of St. Paul
[Photo credit: Steve Teslik, SK 2022]



The Serra Club of Arlington, part of the USA Council of Serra International, promotes vocations to the ministerial priesthood and consecrated life in the Diocese of Arlington.

Come for light refreshments and learn more about the mission of the Serra Club of Arlington, which is part of the Pontifical work of the Catholic Church.



For additional information, contact Mary Petrino, President-Elect, Serra Club of Arlington, at mary.petrino@gmail.com.



MASS INTENTIONS

"We are God's People"
1 Peter 2:10

Monday, November 6th

7:30 am † Deceased Member of the Legion of Mary

Tuesday, November 7th

7:30 am † John P. Rowley, Jr.

12:00 pm † Mauricio Estrada

Wednesday, November 8th

7:30 am † Kathryn Charlton

Thursday, November 9th

7:30 am Special Int. for Pedro Haworth

12:00 pm † Stephen Dollins

Friday, November 10th

7:30 am † Dr. Mark Tummarello

Saturday, November 11th

9:00 am † Deborah Nye-Corgan

5:00 pm † Tien Tran

7:00 pm † Juana Hara Hirata

Sunday, November 12th

7:00 am † Jessica Dammer

9:00 am † Ernie Weeks

11:00 am † Norman Bishop

1:00 pm † Melinda Roberts

5:30 pm Special Int. for Sophia Lee

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

In Mary's Footsteps - A Group for Widows

Our group of faith and fellowship will meet on November 13th at 11:00 in the Father Ready room. We strive to walk on in our Blessed Mother's footsteps of strong faith and peace, as she did after St. Joseph passed. We have monthly meetings, typically on the second Monday of the month at 11:00am, gather for monthly dinners and other outings. For more information, contact Cat Sands at csands@nativityburke.org. God bless you!

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

SCAM ALERT - PLEASE BEWARE

Recently, persons using fake email addresses pretending to be Fr. Bob Cilinski and other parish staff members, have been requesting special favors and/or gift cards. Please note that Fr. Bob, or any of the other priests or parish staff members, **DO NOT and will NEVER email, message, text or ask anyone** for any kind of financial assistance, special requests or favors. Please be careful and delete these kinds of emails or messages immediately. If you are unsure or have any questions, please call the parish office at 703-455-2400.

**ANNUAL FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY
Wednesday, 8 November at 7:30pm**

All parishioners are invited to join the Knights of Columbus for a patriotic ceremony at the Holy Spirit Parish School Gymnasium, 8800 Braddock Road, Annandale. Local scouts from both parishes will help retire the flags and the West Point Glee Club will perform. If you have a worn or soiled flag that needs to be retired, drop it in one of the special collection boxes available in the Narthex and inside the Nativity school entrance. This patriotic event is a great way to celebrate Veteran's day and to show the proper reverence and respect for the symbol of freedom that is our American Flag. A reception with light refreshments and fellowship will follow the ceremony.

For more information, contact John Ostrowski at jaostrowski89@gmail.com

Pray for those who are discerning a call to proclaim the hope of the Resurrection as religious brothers, sisters, priests or deacons. If you feel God is offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at (703) 841-2514 or email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.



A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Coming Soon! Fair Trade sales event in the Nativity Cafeteria on Saturday, November 25 - Sunday, November 26.

Your Nativity Creation Care Ministry is pleased to announce the annual Fair Trade sales event during Thanksgiving weekend. Fair Trade embodies the principles of Catholic Social Teaching including but not limited to, care for God's Creation and the Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers. Fair trade promotes the use of reused, reclaimed and recycled materials, helping conserve, preserve and cultivate the environment so that resources are available for future generations.

Meant to be a long-term system, not short-term charity, Fair Trade works to make communities on all levels sustainable. Fair Trade Organizations are invested in the people they work with, helping them meet nutritional needs, get access to health care, receive financial training, and a variety of other projects, depending on the needs of the community. In addition, Fair trade products celebrate the cultural diversity of communities around the world. Often, artisans use centuries-old techniques passed down from previous generations, incorporating traditional craft methods into stylish, unique products that protect their cultural heritage and allow you to enjoy the skill & beauty of their craft. This event will offer beautifully crafted items ranging from jewelry and accessories to home goods, toys, clothing, food, and holiday items--each has a story to tell. The Haitian metal art is particularly popular with Nativity parishioners. Handmade products make wonderful gifts and mean so much more than traditional mass-produced items. Consider meaningful holiday gifts this year and support fair trade, especially during these challenging times for the artisans!

Creation Care is also looking for volunteers to assist shoppers at the sale for 2 hour time slots. Please see the sign-up genius on the church website under Fair Trade sale. For more information, contact Kim Young at NativityCreationCare@gmail.com.

**NATIVITY ITALIAN HERITAGE
AND CULTURAL SOCIETY**

It's early to tell you about the November meeting of Nativity Italian Heritage and Cultural Society, but this event requires an early response!

We are having a Wine School Evening, presented by Tenuta Torciano Winery Estate, visiting from Tuscany. Their representative will explain their wine-making process; influences of soil, climate and tradition; wine-tasting etiquette, and why specific foods are paired with specific wines.

We will have a tasting of several wines, and also sample olive oil and vinegar products. RSVP's are required by November 7 so we can tell the winery how many to expect. A \$5 fee (CASH ONLY) will be charged to defray expenses. Please note: due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the program is later in the month.

Guests are welcome for a \$5 guest fee, plus \$5 event fee, but all attendees must RSVP by deadline. Non-members can RSVP to passar@cox.net.

**DATE: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023 AT 7:00 PM
PLACE: NATIVITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

**ECHO Food Room November Most Needed Items
Nativity Collection: THIS weekend 4/5 November**

Choose sizes appropriate for our average family size of four. Because of the generosity of our community, ECHO cannot give our clients food whose expiration date is long past, open food, or repackaged food (no zip-loc bags). Any donation, large or small, is most gratefully welcomed.

NEEDED ITEMS: Protein Items (can chicken, Spam, sardines, chili with meat, can beef stew), Spaghetti Sauce, Tea, Milk products (canned, shelf stable, hot chocolate), Macaroni and Cheese, Canned Tomatoes, Honey or Jelly, Cooking Oil, Canned Pasta, Box Potatoes, Lentils, Coffee (Instant), Canned fruit, Bag beans (black, red, or garbanzo), Bag Rice, Pancake Mix and Syrup, Crackers, Spices (garlic, onion, cinnamon, salt, pepper), Lemon/Lime Juice, Juice (Bottles or Box), Tortillas, Muffin/Cornbread Mix, Diapers Sizes 4 & 5, Baby Wipes, Toilet Paper, Deodorant, Shampoo, Facial Tissues, Dish Soap, Bath Soap, Paper Towels, Shaving Cream/Razors, Laundry Detergent.



**ROSARY MINISTRY - HELP WANTED
Can you count to 10!!**

Please join us for our November rosary ministry meeting. Tuesday, November 21st from 1:00-3:00pm in the Father Ready room. We will be teaching you how to make mission rosaries and prayer bracelets.

Come join us in praying the Rosary every Tuesday and Thursday after the noon Mass. We will be praying the special intention for peace in Israel and Ukraine. Please sign up on the church website under rosary ministry at nativityburke.org.

WORKCAMP 2024
Information Meeting

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12
 4:30-5:15pm in the Well

Are you a teen, parent, or adult volunteer interested in getting involved with WorkCamp? Whether you're new to the program or returning, this meeting is for you!

Contact:
 Brigid Williams
 wc@nativityburke.org






***** ALL PARISH EVENT *****
NATIVITY'S 5K/FUN RUN
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH FROM 7AM - 11AM
REGISTRATION OPEN - EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT UNTIL 11/1

"THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SUCH A GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES, LET US THROW OFF EVERYTHING THAT HINDERS AND THE SIN THAT SO EASILY ENTANGLES. AND LET US RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE THE RACE MARKED OUT FOR US, FIXING OUR EYES ON JESUS, THE PIONEER AND PERFECTER OF FAITH, WHO FOR THE JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE CROSS." HEBREWS 12: 1 - 3

ON CAMPUS AT NATIVITY
6400 NATIVITY LANE
BURKE, VA 22015



PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC)
 We are a social group, mostly age 60 and over. (35 to 59) Ask about our free associate-membership group.) Meet us for: walk in historic cemetery and dinner (Nov 5); square dancing (Nov 7, 21, 28); Thursday lunch (Nov 9); dinner in Fairfax City (Nov 12); Annual Dinner Dance (Nov 18); Flamenco dance performance (Nov 19); Thanksgiving Day dinner (Nov 23); serving evening meal at Christ House (Nov 25); tailgate party and Ice & Lights show (Nov 26); Christmas party (Dec 2). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.

YOUTH MINISTRY

LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12
 DINNER - FELLOWSHIP - PRAYER & FORMATION
 Sundays | 6:30-8:30pm

HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUPS
GIRLS: Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00pm, weekly
GUYS: Thursdays, 7:00-8:30pm, 2x/month



EDGE: GRADES 6-8
 Alternating Sundays | 3:30-5:00pm
 & Fridays | 7:00-8:30 pm



WORKCAMP INTEREST MEETING
 Come learn more about WorkCamp, an annual week-long overnight camp fostering Christ-centered service, faith, and fellowship for high schoolers within the Diocese.
 Who: High schoolers, parents, and adult volunteers
 When: Sunday, November 12 from 4:30 p.m-5:15 p.m
 Where: The Well (Youth Ministry Room)

[See website for full schedule](#)
 Before attending, please register for the 2023-2024 year of ministry using our free, online forms.

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

The Care for Our Common Home Ministry at St. John Neumann in Reston is presenting **Food Choices Matter - How What You Eat Affects You, Others, and the Environment** on **Monday, November 13, at 7:00 p.m. ET via Zoom.**

Our individual and collective dietary choices—particularly our consumption of meat, dairy products, and eggs—have a significant impact on our health, global food security, and the environment. Shifting to a more plant-based diet is one of the most effective things we can do to improve the well-being of ourselves and others, reduce pollution and climate change, and prevent suffering in other sentient creatures. Presenter, Dr. Mary E. McGann, RSCJ, is on the faculty of the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California. Her most recent book, *The Meal That Reconnects: Eucharistic Eating and the Global Food Crisis* (Liturgical Press, 2020), received the 2021 Catholic Media Association First Place Award for Catholic Social Teaching. To receive the Zoom link, email nativitycreationcare@gmail.com



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.



NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
 A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence
nativityschool.org



Love working with children?



Want flexibility? Consider subbing at Nativity School... Please Join Us!
We are in need of substitute teachers with the following minimum qualifications:

- 2-plus years of college
- Ability to follow a lesson plan and give effective instructions in the absence of the teacher
- Proficiency in maintaining effective classroom management skills
- Diocesan-compliant
- Successful background check

Is Your Child Turning 3 or 4 By Next Fall?



We've Got Just The Spot – In Our Classroom! Email Jen Behan at jbehan@nativityschool.org to schedule a tour of our classrooms, playground, and lunchroom – and to meet our teachers. Please bring your child, too – we can't wait to meet you!

At Nativity, faith fills us. Love lives here.
Nativity Stars are filled with the Holy Spirit!

~ Important Upcoming Dates ~

- Monday, November 6 - School Pictures
- Wednesday, November 8 - School Pictures
- Thursday, November 9 - Early Dismissal, 11:30 am
- Thursday, November 9 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Friday, November 10 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Sunday, Nov. 12 - Discover Catholic Schools Week
- Thursday, November 16 - 'Christmas Trees' Go Home
- Friday, Nov. 17 - Perishable Items for Baskets Due
- Friday, Nov. 17 - K & 1st Grade T'giving Program
- Monday, Nov. 20 - Perishable Items for Baskets Due
- Tuesday, November 21 - 1st Trimester Ends
- Wednesday, November 22 - T'giving Break Begins
- Tuesday, November 28 - Back to School Today
- Thursday, November 30 - HSPT, 8th Grade

Join us at Nativity to see how your child would spend his/her days here - learning, praying, sharing, loving, and laughing. We may be just the school for which you've been searching!



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



Council Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tuesday. 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. Linktree Universal Sign-up Link: https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992

Volunteer for an event! Scroll down to view all events.

1 & 2 December, Breakfast with Santa. Prep Friday and give tons of smiles on Saturday. Volunteer on linktree.

**** Keep Christ in Christmas Nativity Yard Displays - \$75**
Scan the QR Code Or email: handyknightsofnativity@gmail.com, and we will email you a copy of the online form.

6 November, 6:45 PM Mass of Remembrance: Need volunteers to be Reading Lectors, Drivers for Windows, and reserve attendance.

10 & 11 November, Fall for Broadway: Nativity Knights are supporting the Nativity Theater at Fall for Broadway. We need food and beer/wine servers. Times are subject to change/update. Volunteer on linktree.

18 November, Adopt a Highway: Clean up Old Keene Mill Road - Be apart of the Elite Eight. Volunteer on linktree.

19 November, Donut Sunday: Support the parish and meet fellow parishioners. *Joint support with Religious Education.

Food for Others: Volunteer drivers for food distribution to the poor. If you have a truck, SUV or van and can occasionally help deliver to 7 Corners on Thursday evenings or to Springfield on Friday evenings please consider helping. For Thursdays, please contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net.

For Fridays, please contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com.

Name Tags: Email Vince Augelli at VaKC23@gmail.com.

Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies: We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. Volunteer on linktree.

Handy Knights Ministry: If you are unable to perform basic maintenance tasks or small repairs in your home due to health or other factors, call the "Handy Knights." Email handyknightsofnativity@gmail.com.

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

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





ST. TIMOTHY
CATHOLIC CHURCH

FALL CRAFT FAIR

Admission: bring a can good item to help support our St Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

NOVEMBER 18, 2023

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

50+ Vendors: Woodcraft, jewelry, fine art, religious, ceramic, fashion, home decor, Christmas, food/cooking, raffle and more

13809 Poplar Tree Rd.
Chantilly, VA 20151

NEED TO TALK?

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

Struggling with addiction in the family?

Both the afflicted and affected don't need to be alone. There are many resources available including AA, NA, Alanon, Calix and a diocesan chaplain. Call the HELPLINE (970) 989-2670 for support. This is NOT LIMITED to addicts, anybody that would like to speak with a priest or a friend in Christ May call!

Pray for Peace in the Middle East with fellow Parishioners!

The Nativity Rosary Ministry leads the rosary 3 times a week and we encourage all to join us. The rosary is prayed after the noon Masses on Tuesday and Thursday at Nativity, and we gather via Zoom on Sunday evenings at 7:30 PM. Contact Brenda Zepf at zepfmb@gmail.com for the link (which is sent out just before the meeting) Come and pray the rosary with us. We are praying for the people experiencing the terrors of war with the killing, the fear, the evil destruction and the horror in which the families find themselves. We must pray for these people in any way and every way that we can. Feel free to take a rosary from the rosary board. We are reaching out to God in trust and we know He will hear us! Again, join us in prayer for the Middle East. Diane Fields, diane.l.fields44@gmail.com.



Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe for Couples Struggling with Infertility, Miscarriage & Infant Loss

led by Bishop Burbidge

December 4th - 12th

Submit your intentions, pray the novena & find more information at: OurFruitfulLove.com/novena



 Catholic Diocese of Arlington
Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life
(703) 841-2550 | familylife@arlingtondiocese.org

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Organist and NPR Host Peter DuBois in Concert

St. Andrew the Apostle Concert Series presents organist Peter DuBois in a free pipe organ concert featuring works by Bach, Schumann and French Romantic composers on Sunday, November 12, 2023, at 4:00pm at St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church in Clifton, Virginia. He is also the host and producer of NPR's With Heart and Voice, a weekly program of sacred choral and organ music featured on more than 125 public radio stations nationwide. A meet-the-artist reception will follow the performance. For more information visit www.st-andrew.org/concerts or call 703-817-1770.



SR. CONSTANCE & THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR ARE

COOKING UP SOME FUN FOR FIAT!

For high school girls interested in growing
spiritually and exploring their vocation.



December 9, 2023, 10am-3pm

St. Jeanne Jugan Residence

4200 Harewood Road NE, Washington, DC

Includes Mass, adoration, baking and lunch.

Cost: \$15

For more info and to register, visit
ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT.

Register by November 21.

Sponsored by the Diocese of Arlington Office of Vocations



Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday November 5

Malachi 1:14b – 2:2b,8-10
 Ps 131:1-3
 1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9,13
 Matthew 23:1-12

Monday November 6

Romans 11:29-36
 Ps 69:30-31,33-34,36
 Luke 14:12-14

Tuesday November 7

Romans 12:5-16b
 Ps 131:1b-3
 Luke 14:15-24

Wednesday November 8

Romans 13:8-10
 Ps 112:1b-2,4-5,9
 Luke 14:25-33

Thursday November 9

Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
 Ezra 47:1-2,8-9,12
 Ps 46:2-3,5-6,8-9
 1 Cor 3:9c-11,16-17
 John 2:13-22

Friday November 10

St. Leo the Great, Pp, Dr
 Romans 15:14-21
 Ps 98:1-4
 Luke 16:1-8

Saturday November 11

St. Martin of Tours, Bp
 Romans 16:3-9,16,22-27
 Ps 145:2-5,10-11
 Luke 16:9-15

Christ's representative in Church leadership, he serves us in everything he does, whether it's presiding at Mass or making decisions.

No matter what someone's credentials are, no matter how much authority God has given to our priests and other leaders,

Today's Gospel reading contains a verse that, when taken literally, has been used by some Protestants to condemn Catholicism because we call our priests "Father." By that logic, when Jesus said, "Call no one on earth your father," he meant our dads, too, right? Did he never call St. Joseph by the title father? Perhaps when Jesus as a lad had a question about carpentry he said, "Hey dude who's married to Mom!" I don't think so.

To understand what Jesus means in this scripture, we need to read the whole passage: This singled-out verse is actually part of a teaching about equality. He is telling us that we must not consider anyone to be superior to ourselves – no one but God is superior to us.

Jesus says here: "The greatest among you must be your servant." At other times in other scriptures, Jesus says that if we want to be greatest, we have to be the servant of all, because we must not think of ourselves as superior to others. But in today's lesson he's telling us not to think of ourselves as inferior, either. He trying to cure our low self-esteem.

Do you know, for example, that as a child of God you are not inferior to the pope? This is why he's called the servant of the servants of God. As



and no matter how famous or well-liked anyone is, we are all equally loved by God. We're all equally important to God.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † Do you feel served by those who have higher status? Why or why not?
- † When you don't, how much of this is your own attitude of assuming that you're inferior? What will you do to shift your thinking and accept your own value according to God's perspective?
- † When someone's job or talents or position in the family or church seems greater than yours, how do you overcome your feelings of inferiority?
- † How does Jesus convey to you that you are inferior to no one?
- † Describe a time when you felt inferior but then became aware of your equal value. (This story will help others who are struggling to overcome their own feelings of inferiority.)

Novena de oraciones por nuestros difuntos / Esquelas virtuales
Novena de oraciones por nuestros difuntos / Esquelas virtuales
Únase a nuestras oraciones, y envíenos los nombres de los difuntos a quienes usted desea que encomendemos.

Por: Lucrecia Rego de Planas | Fuente: Catholic.net

...la Iglesia no se detiene en el umbral del cementerio, sino que va más allá, guiando y sosteniendo la esperanza del Pueblo de Dios con la luz de las oraciones de sufragio, que pueden establecer una mediación entre nosotros y las almas de los fieles difuntos.



Juan Pablo II

Ya se acerca el mes de noviembre, en el que la Iglesia celebra, el día 2, la fiesta de los fieles difuntos.

Todos conservamos siempre vivo el recuerdo de nuestros seres queridos que se nos han adelantado para ir a la casa del Padre. La Iglesia, a través de la oración y la Santa Misa de sufragio, nos permite vivir unidos espiritualmente a ellos, y renueva en nosotros la certeza de que nuestra vida no termina en esta tierra.

Con esta ocasión, Catholic.net ha organizado, juntamente con diversos conventos y casas de religiosos y religiosas, una novena para rezarla durante los nueve días previos a la fiesta de los Fieles Difuntos, con adoraciones, el rezo del rosario, y una intención especial en la Santa Misa el día 2 de noviembre celebrada por sacerdotes amigos de Catholic.net que se han sumado a nuestra iniciativa.

Lo invitamos a unirse a nuestras oraciones enviándonos los nombres de los difuntos a quienes usted desea que encomendemos. Tendremos un recuerdo especial para ellos durante el octavario en honor a los difuntos del 1 al 8 de noviembre donde además podremos ganar la indulgencia plenaria, que se aplica a nuestros difuntos a manera de sufragio.

Si desea enviarnos los nombres y sus intenciones es muy sencillo: sólo tiene que rellenar el formulario en nuestro sitio <http://es.catholic.net/novenas/> Nosotros enviaremos estos nombres e intenciones a los diversos conventos y casas de religiosos y religiosas y sacerdotes diocesanos que se han sumado a esta Novena de los Fieles Difuntos, cuyo texto puede consultarse haciendo click aquí

Las oraciones no cuestan, son algo gratuito. Sin embargo, aprovechamos para recordarle que la única manera que tenemos para mantener el servicio de Catholic.net es recibiendo donativos de nuestros visitantes. Es por esto que nos atrevemos a decirle que sería muy bueno que pudiera colaborar con algo: un dólar, cinco, diez, o lo que usted pueda. Toda la información para los donativos está en la página <http://es.catholic.net/tenecesitamos/donar.php>

Si usted, además del rezo de la Novena, quiere que incluyamos a sus difuntos en nuestra campaña de oración perpetua, puede adquirir una "esquela virtual" por uno, cinco o diez años. Si le interesa esta modalidad, vaya a: <http://es.catholic.net/esquelas/esquelas.php>

Pero, por favor, no deje de enviarnos sus intenciones aún si no puede aportar dinero. No deje pasar esta oportunidad de unirnos todos en oración por nuestros seres queridos, que Catholic.net le ofrece durante la novena anterior a la fiesta y durante el octavario del 1 al 8 de noviembre.

Si usted es sacerdote o religiosa y desea unirse a este proyecto con la celebración de una misa por nuestros difuntos u organizando una novena en su comunidad, le agradeceremos que se registre en <http://es.catholic.net/novenas/>

Muchas gracias por su apoyo, sus oraciones y por su colaboración.

Lucrecia Rego de Planas
Dirección
<http://es.catholic.net>

XXXI Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario, Ciclo A

Juan 14, 1-6: Las otras moradas

Autor: Mons. Jesús Sanz Montes, ofm

Es un Evangelio escogido para la conmemoración de los fieles difuntos. Lo dice el cantar sevillano: que de verdad se nos muere algo en el alma cuando un amigo se va. Y en esa suerte de tristeza se encontraban los amigos de Jesús, cuando veían llegar el momento de decir adiós a su Maestro. El Evangelio de este día nos permite asomarnos a ese pañuelo de silencio que nos relata la congoja de unos hombres que no asimilaban la despedida de quien cambió por entero sus vidas en aquellos tres años inolvidables de convivencia con Jesús. Arranca el texto diciéndoles el Señor: que no tiemble vuestro corazón. Y como si de un descubridor de tierras nuevas y eternas se tratase, le dirá a continuación: me voy a prepararos sitio. Así de entrañable resulta esta visión cristiana que tienen los adioses, porque ni siquiera ante la misma muerte nos decimos «adiós», sino sólo un fugaz «hasta la vista», seguros como estamos de que volveremos a encontrarnos con Jesús y los amigos que más hemos querido, en esa nueva casa de tantas estancias que el Maestro ha ido a prepararnos.

Y al siempre preguntón Tomás, tan dado a las seguridades requetecomprobadas, de querer saber adónde va Jesús y cómo y dónde está el camino, el Señor le contestará aquello que es toda una definición de sí mismo: Yo soy el camino, y la verdad, y la vida. No es cualquier cosa esta que dijo Jesús en su respuesta a Tomás. Porque en ello nos va el comprender qué sea el cristianismo. Ante el bazar siempre con ofertas de temporada en el que se nos ofrecen un sinfín de caminos seductores, un montón de verdades de ocasión, un catálogo de vidas de diseño, resulta particularmente provocativo y al mismo tiempo liberador el que para los cristianos y para todos los demás, Jesucristo representa no un artículo de consumo más sino lo único que se corresponde con el camino del que todos somos peregrinos, con la verdad de la que somos buscadores y con la vida de la que somos mendigos.

La respuesta a Tomás y a todos nosotros, es únicamente Jesús. Quién más o quién menos, habrá comprobado que cuando frecuentamos otros senderos, coqueteamos con otras verdades o jugamos con la vida, no nos salen las cuentas, y una y otra vez nos hallamos al paio de una felicidad para la que fuimos hechos y que nuestros atajos e inventos no logran colmar ni calmar. Porque sólo Jesús es el camino que verdaderamente nos permite vivir.

+ Fr. Jesús Sanz Montes, ofm
Obispo de Huesca y de Jaca

XXXI DOMINGO ORDINARIO – A

Evangelio: Mat 23,1-12 - Servidor de todos

En su condición de Maestro y Profeta, que sirve al pueblo con honestidad, Jesús cumple su misión con gran valentía y claridad, para que todos le entiendan y mejor puedan aceptarle y seguirle. Jesús critica abiertamente el comportamiento de los rabinos y sacerdotes, “de los letrados y fariseos” diciendo: “haced y cumplid lo que os digan, pero no hagáis lo que ellos hacen, porque ellos no hacen lo que dicen”.

Y después de la crítica negativa, viene la luz esplendorosa del consejo y la palabra animante y comprometedora: “El primero entre vosotros, será vuestro servidor”.

*Señor, que tan claramente nos criticas el mal comportamiento, y tan esperanzadamente nos propones y animas a seguirte en el servicio humilde y desinteresado a los demás. ¡Gracias, Señor, por esta manera de juzgar y criticar, de animar y estimular al bien y a la caridad!
Es verdad que te diriges principalmente a los que tienen por obligación orientar al pueblo y servirle con el oficio profético y ministerial.*

Pero todos hemos de ser servidores de los demás, y maestros de quienes nos rodean o dependen de nosotros. Por eso acojo tus palabras críticas y cariñosas, inquietantes y animadoras, pues quiero ser seguidor tuyo y apóstol para los demás con mis palabras y mis consejos, y sobre todo con mi ejemplo y mi testimonio de cristiano verdadero.

También te pido, Señor, con toda confianza y cariño, por los catequistas y sacerdotes, por los predicadores y misioneros.

Que merezcan el respeto y cariño, la acogida y el seguimiento, sobre todo por su santidad de vida y su testimonio profesional y apostólico.

Que sean conscientes de la necesidad de ser más que predicadores, santos; más que maestros, testigos alegres y enamorados de tu persona y de tu mensaje.

También los cristianos “de a pie” necesitamos escuchar estas palabras, saborearlas en la oración y hacerlas propias en la vida de cada día.

Por esto te pido, Señor, que me muestre siempre como hermano de todos, para que mejor ejerza “mi magisterio de padre, y de jefe”, de quienes me rodean.

Que busque ser grande en ayudar desde la humildad y la sencillez de vida.

Que busque, sobre todo, más que mandar, servir; y más que dirigir, ayudar; y más que aleccionar, testimoniar tu amor y gracia, como Tu nos has enseñado.

Padre Segismundo Fernandez Rodríguez



Jesus talked to the people about the way they should act.

Use the code to find His words.

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

“ U L I G S L H V D S L
V C Z O G



G S V N H V O E V H

D R O O Y V

S F N Y O V W

Z M W G S L H V D S L

S F N Y O V

G S V N H V O E V H



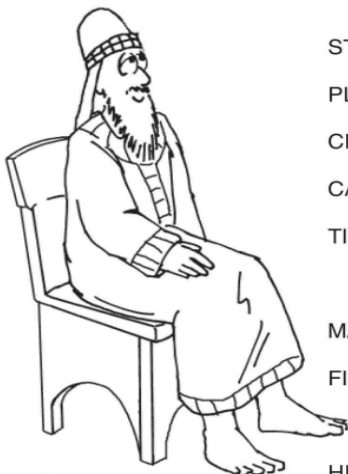
D R O O Y V

V C Z O G V W



The Pharisees wanted people to see what they did and that they were holy.
Where did the Pharisees like to sit?
In the ...

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

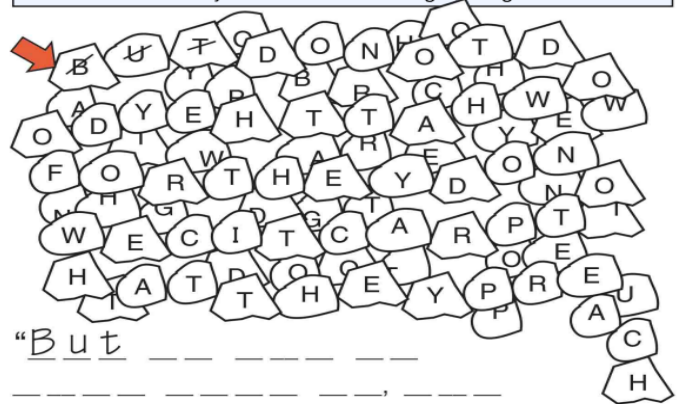


- STAMP - MATS ___
- PLACE - CAPE ___
- CHAIR - RICH ___
- CAMEL - LAME ___
- TIGER - GRIT ___
- MAYOR - ARMY ___
- FINDER - DINER ___
- HEAP - PEA ___
- MOTEL - MELT ___
- NOBEL - LOBE ___
- ANCHOR - RANCH ___
- HORSE - SHOE ___

Words and Actions

Jesus told the people to obey the teachers of the law and the Pharisees and to do everything they told them.

Begin at the →. Write the letters in the order found on the stones that are completely uncovered and that touch one another.
Hint: Letters may be read from left to right, or right to left.



“But _____

_____”

Jesus told the people something important.

Use this code to find what He said.



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

Jesus said,

“ . . .
.
.
.
”



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any shift - full and part time

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Your local Burke IHOP proudly supports Nativity Church.
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