

Peace Advent



6400 Nativity Lane,
Burke, Virginia 22015
nativityburke.org



VERY REV. MSGR. 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 Swidal, 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/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.
Maria Ammirati, Religious Education Coordinator
Fania Jimenez, Administrative Assistant

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. 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**

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



*“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths”
- Luke 3:4*

My dear parishioners,

We enter the second week of Advent and prepare for the coming of Christ into our world ever anew. We light two candles on the wreath and at this time of the year we notice something happening within us. Deep, half-forgotten stirrings come to life inside us, the desire to reconcile, to get closer to Christ and His church, to get in touch with friends and family, to be at peace inside and out. Advent is the time to allow the comfort of God to renew our hope. Jesus will return and will come to us and our deepest needs will be met. This is the comfort and promise God gives us. Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas and the coming of Christ into our life with new power. May we create time for those deep stirrings of Christ’s grace to grow within us.

Please support the Catholic Charities Christmas Collection this weekend. Nowhere do we see more clearly Our Lord’s special compassion for the poor than at Christmas. Together, we meditate on His entrance into the world as a helpless, poor and homeless baby born to a young mother and father. Our Savior became one of us in poverty and rags and he has a special place in His Sacred Heart for the poor and vulnerable. Thank you.

“Every year Advent reminds us that grace – and that is God’s will to save us, is more powerful than sin.” - St. John Paul II

Come to the Penance Service on Thursday, December 19th from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. We will have 20 priest available for individual confession. Advent reminds us that God’s grace is more powerful than sin.

Happy Advent!

Love and blessings,

Bob Cilinski
Msgr. Bob Cilinski
Pastor

“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” (PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10)

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that “gift” truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your “obligation” to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them and learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less “stuff” and spend more time with those you love.

Advent Wreath Prayers



If you are setting up an Advent wreath in your home this year, here are some prayers you could say while you light its candles. You may say these before or after a meal, when waking up, before going to bed, or whenever you and the members of your household gather for prayer. Before you say the prayer, read and talk over the Gospel you heard at Sunday Mass that week.

Week 2: O God, who sent John The Baptist to proclaim a baptism of repentance, let these two candles prepare the way for the Lord within us. Forgive our sins and fill us with your Holy Spirit. Make us ready to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Through Christ our Lord.

Week 3: O God, who sent John The Baptist as a voice crying out in the desert, open our ears to hear his message as we light the pink candle. Shape our lives so that they will become a straight path to you. Make us ready to greet your Son when he comes to us. Through Christ our Lord.

Week 4: O God, who sent your angel Gabriel to announce good news to Mary, make us happy with your word of life. Let our hearts be so filled with love for you that they glow with the lights of these four candles. May we live in a way that will please you. Through Christ our Lord.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Fr. Edward Bresnahan
December 13

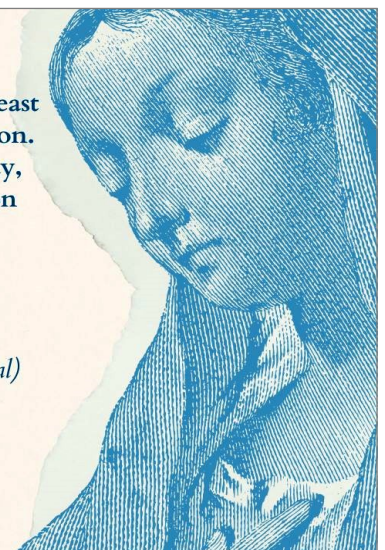


ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Will take place on: Thursday, December 19, from 6:30-8:00pm. 20 Priests will be available for individual reconciliation. A great way to prepare for Christmas!

Sunday, December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. As the feast falls on a Sunday, this Holy Day of Obligation will be observed on Monday, December 9.

Mass Times:
7:30am, 9:00am, 12:00pm
5:00pm and 7:00pm (bilingual)



**VISIT THE NATIVITY GIFT SHOP
FOR ALL YOUR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SHOPPING**

Besides delicious Fair Trade coffee and chocolate, the Gift Shop has ingredients for split pea soup, lentil soup, and Firehouse chili. These packets are from the Women’s Bean Project of the USA where impoverished women learn the skills required for gainful employment and self sufficiency, in a safe and accepting work environment.

The Gift shop also carries many wonderful Advent & Christmas items: ornaments, advent candles, Nativity sets, cards etc. Open after all Masses. *(except the 5:30pm Sunday Mass, volunteers urgently needed!)*



Family Ministry

Join the email list to find out about a meet-up in January outside of the Christmas break.



Join the Family Ministry email list

PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC)

We are a social group, mostly aged 60 and over. (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate-membership group.)

Meet us for: Square Dancing at Greenspring Village (Dec.17); Lunch (Dec. 12); Mass at Blessed Sacrament Church (Dec. 15); Walk at Frying Pan Park (Dec. 18); Christmas Concert at Constitution Hall (Dec. 22); Christmas Dinner (Dec. 25); Christ House meal (Dec. 28); New Year's Eve daytime celebration (Dec. 31); New Year's Day lunch (Jan. 1).

For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc.

With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.

**Monthly Sensory Mass | Sunday - December 8
At 1:00 pm - Nativity Catholic Church**

In an effort to embrace and welcome the neurodiverse members of our community, Nativity Catholic Church is hosting a monthly Sensory Mass on the second Sunday of every month at the 1:00 pm Mass. All are welcome to attend! A special invitation is extended to any person in need of sensory accommodations.

A Sensory Mass requires a welcoming stigma-free environment and accommodations to help reduce over-stimulation and sensory overload. The Mass will include softer music, dimmer lighting, pictorial resources, and self-regulation tools for those with special needs. Families are encouraged to bring any regulation tool (noise reduction items, quiet fidgets, flexible seating items, weighted objects, etc.) that can support focused attention and provide comfort to a person so they can feel safe in their environment and they can better participate in the Holy Mass.



**Nativity Catholic Church Invites you to a
Celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
on Saturday, December 14th at 6:45pm**

Mass will be followed by a procession to the Father Martin Center and a reception. There will be a Mariachi Band alongside Latin American dancers. All are invited!

Iglesia de la Natividad te invita a una celebración de nuestra Señora de Guadalupe El sábado 14 de diciembre a las 6:45pm. La Misa comienza a las 6:45pm, seguida por una procesión al Centro Padre Martin (gimnasio).

Habrà una banda de mariachis junto a los Bailarines Folklorico.

Invocamos tu intercesión, Mader, nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Nos apareces de maneras que podemos entender. Oramos por todos nuestros hermanos católicos cristianos que sufren persecución religiosa por su fe. Les pedimos que los cubran en su manto, les den coraje de corazón y firme fe en la presencia de su hijo en su sufrimiento.

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

The Knights of Columbus - Dames 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 distro.

The Women of Nativity (WON) Annual Advent Tree

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CHOSE AN ORNAMENT THIS YEAR! ALL GIFTS NEED TO BE RETURNED TO THE CHURCH NARTHEX THIS WEEKEND, DECEMBER 7 & 8.

WRAPPING INSTRUCTIONS FOR EACH 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.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO RETURN GIFTS ON THE SCHEDULED DATES TO MEET THE DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS OF THE CHARITIES. THE LAST DAY TO RETURN THE GIFTS IS DECEMBER 8. 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.



High School Retreat December 20 - 22



Come be renewed in your faith, build community, and unwind in the breathtaking views of the Potomac. You can expect a weekend of small groups connections, Mass, adoration & confession, games, and great food! Register on the parish website by December 10.

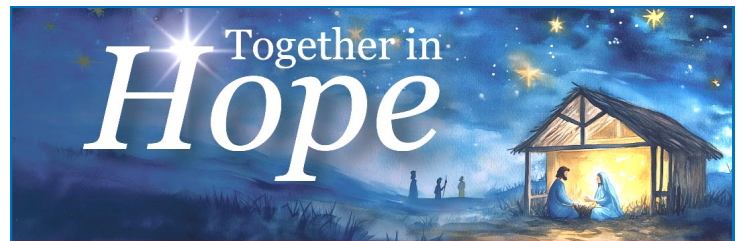
Contact Rebecca at cym@nativityburke.org



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.



2024 Parish Christmas Collection

Make a gift today!

Donate online at ccda.net/Christmas or scan the QR code



HELLO FROM THE ROSERY MINISTRY!!

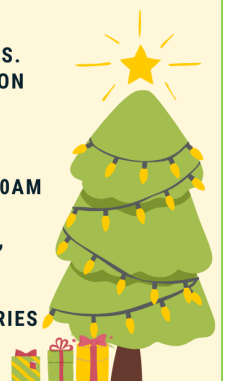
Please join us for our monthly meeting on Sunday, December 15th from 2:00-3:30 pm in the Father Ready Room here at Nativity. We will be learning how to make Rosary Bracelets as well as our traditional Mission Rosaries. All supplies will be provided. Thank you to all who have been turning in finished Rosaries. Let's get as many Rosaries into praying hands as we can!! If you have any questions you can contact us at rosaryministry@nativityburke.org.

NATIVITY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR *sponsored by the Craft Group*

THE ANNUAL NATIVITY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR WILL AGAIN BE OFFERING VARIOUS ITEMS FOR SALE SUCH AS: SCARVES, HATS, SWEATERS, BABY ITEMS & BLANKETS, CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS & DECORATIONS, AND MANY OTHER GREAT GIFTS. SO PLEASE STOP BY AND GET A HEAD START ON YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!!

LOCATION: FR. READY ROOM
WHEN: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH FROM 9:00AM TO 1:00PM AND AFTER THE 5:00PM MASS.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH AFTER THE 7:00AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM AND 1:00PM MASSES.

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT NATIVITY MINISTRIES AND VARIOUS COMMUNITY CHARITIES. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!





Bilingual Holy Hour for
Hispanic Vocations
at
Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church
SATURDAY, JANUARY 25
11:15 AM

Join us for a Holy Hour offered for
the priesthood, consecrated life, and the
perseverance of all vocations.

All are welcome!

Sponsored by:
The Serra Club of Arlington



The Serra Club of Arlington are lay Catholics of all ages and from all walks of life who promote vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, support priests in their sacred ministry, and assist fellow members to recognize and respond in their own lives, to God's call to holiness in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit.

For more information, please visit serraclubarlington.org.

NEED TO TALK?

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



A Message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry - It's not too late to SHOP FAIR TRADE WITH CREATION CARE MINISTRY!

Did you miss the Fair Trade Sale last weekend or think of additional gift giving needs after the sale? It's not too late to make a difference with your holiday shopping! Visit www.fairtradewinds.net and use promo code **NATIVITY2024** through Monday, December 9 to credit our sale with your purchases.

Not familiar with how Fair Trade benefits the artisans involved? Fair trade began as an alternative form of aid for developing countries where traditional charity was not enough. Fair trade creates self-sufficient, independent organizations that work towards long-term change and positive development. In many ways, fair trade partnerships allow artisans to feel more dignified than if they just received money from a charity organization. Fair trade places a real value on the skills and talents of the artisans, many of whom have been working on their craft for years and learned the skills from their parents or grandparents. Unlike traditional charity, fair trade includes a social premium, on top of a fair wage, which goes to the community as a whole.

Each cooperative then decides how to use the money for projects like clean water wells, new workshop facilities, a daycare facility, and other projects that will benefit the entire community. Another advantage of fair trade over traditional charity is the fact that in working towards long-term development, fair trade provides steady, regular employment so that artisans have money coming in consistently. This regular income makes a big difference in the kind of livelihood the artisans can have for themselves and for their families. As fair trade organizations grow their partnerships, they also are able to provide educational resources like skill training, health care, financial planning, and more.

These are extremely useful resources that traditional charity usually does not provide, but are crucial for the independent development of artisan communities. Thank you for shopping Fair Trade! Questions? nativitycreationcare@gmail.com.



MASS INTENTIONS & MASS SCHEDULE

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

Monday, December 9th - Immaculate Conception

7:30 am † Richard Massone
9:00 am Special Intention for Fr. Bresnahan
12:00 pm † Napoleon & Lutgarda Salas
5:00 pm Parishioners
7:00 pm Brian Arriola (*Bilingual*)

Tuesday, December 10th

7:30 am † Santiago A. Hernandez Jr.
12:00 pm † Phillip McHugh

Wednesday, December 11th

7:30 am † Paul Cilinski

Thursday, December 12th

7:30 am Special Intention for the Gresdo Family
12:00 pm † Mae Lamagna

Friday, December 13th

7:30 am † Anthony Miles Sr.
No School Mass

Saturday, December 14th

9:00 am † Frank Klimkos
5:00 pm † John Heavey
6:45 pm † Jorge Calero (*Guadalupe Spanish Mass*)

Sunday, December 15th

7:00 am † Joseph Bowers Jr.
9:00 am † Stephen Banks
11:00 am † Michael Boehm
1:00 pm † Anna & William Celestino
5:30 pm Parishioners

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

CALLING ALL 8-12TH GRADERS!



AUDITIONS

AND INTEREST MEETING FOR THE ARLINGTON DIOCESE
ONE ACT PLAY AND SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

For Thespians, Film Makers and Stage/Tech Crew
Music Room: Thursday, Dec. 12, 7-8:30 p.m.

Info: Barbara Schwartz, theater@nativityburke.org

nativity players theater ministry



YOUTH MINISTRY

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



EDGE: GRADES 6-8
Twice a month: Sunday 3:30-5:00pm
& Friday 7:00-8:30pm
See website for full schedule




WORKCAMP APPLICATION OPEN
The WorkCamp application is open on our website for high school participants and adult volunteers! Apply by January 20 - meetings start January 26.

GIRLS SMALL GROUP
Join us for our girls small group Advent Mini-Series: December 11 & 18 from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the Well. Email us if you're interested in joining.


[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)



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:
The next Prayer Shawl meeting will be held on Monday morning, December 16th at 9:30 am in the Fr. Ready room. This ministry is open to all members of our community!

2Minutes2Virtue
2Minutes2Virtue is for Catholics who want to get the most out of Sunday readings. Every week, a featured priest from the Catholic Diocese of Arlington will give his take on the Sunday Gospel reading, and use it as inspiration behind the week's challenge. Look out for your own parish priest, and experience the wisdom of so many priests in our own diocese.
You can sign up by texting "2m2v" to 84576, and receive the weekly challenge straight to your mobile phone!



Pro-Life Corner
National March For Life (MFL) - Friday, January 24, 2025: Join people of goodwill from across our country in peacefully and joyfully rallying around the basic truth that every human life – including the unborn and their mothers – is beautiful, has unique dignity, and worthy of protection. Save the date.

Virginia Pro-Life Day in Richmond - January 29, 2025: Support Life issues and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow parishioners across the state. Your personal presence is vital in supporting pro-life members of the General Assembly or encouraging those who have voted against pro-life bills in the past to reconsider their views. Contact rickloffredo@outlook.com if interested in attending.

"The Religion of the Day: Breaking Free from Post-Christian Influence," by Msgr. James Shea: Please join us Saturday morning, December 21, from 8:00-9:00am, in the Fr. Ready Room for a showing of Msgr. James Shea's riveting speech from the National Eucharistic Congress, entitled, "The Religion of the Day: Breaking Free from Post-Christian Influence." Discussion to follow.

Tepeyac Pro-Life OB/GYN: Faith-based Pro-life OB/GYN: restoring integrity of human person with modern medicine and healing of Christ. tepeyacobgyn.com, 703.273.9440.

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.

A Woman's Choice Center - Providing Compassionate Support: Free pregnancy, medical, educational, and support services for women and families, awomanschoicecenter.com, 703.538.4305.

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



St. Margaret of Cortona - Transitional and Maternity Housing: Helping single mothers in exceptionally difficult circumstances: Assisting mothers with children who may be transitioning from homeless and domestic violence shelters to independent living; and Assisting women pregnant with their first child or pregnant moms who already have other children and find themselves at significant risk in their current living situations. [https://www.cdda.net/need-help/housing/family-housing-\(st-margaret\)/](https://www.cdda.net/need-help/housing/family-housing-(st-margaret)/), or call 703.910.4845.

Mary's Shelter: Sheltering Women and Their Children: Provides an expectant mother, and any additional children she may have, with housing for up to three years in order to further her education and/or secure employment. <https://marysshelterva.org/>, 540.374.3407.

Catholic Charities Pregnancy and Adoption Services: Provides transformative services to individuals, couples and families whose lives are impacted by unplanned pregnancy, parenting in a crisis situation and/or whose lives have been touched by adoption. <https://www.cdda.net/need-help/pregnancy-and-adoption-services/>, 703.841.3830

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

Rachel's Vineyard - A safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem broken hearts: Weekend retreats offer you a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment. www.rachelsvineyard.org/, 877.467.3463.



Parish Christmas Collection | December 7-8, 2024

Your support of Catholic Charities helps serve the poor, protect the vulnerable, and welcome the newcomer – serving our neighbors right here in our diocese.

“I called so many different people... Catholic Charities was the only one that said that they could help me.”

CRYSTAL
Received emergency assistance after transplant surgery

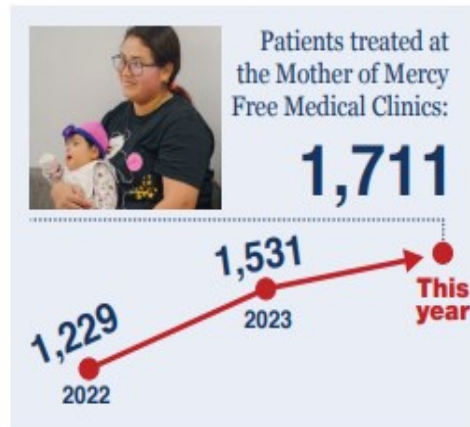
“God led me to Catholic Charities Christ House. He made that call.”

DORIAN
Former Christ House resident

“They usually come over here and say, ‘is anybody picking up your food today?’ And then sometimes they’ll bring it over to me.”

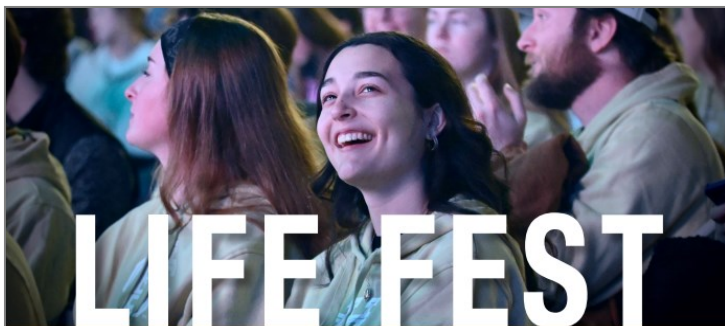
GEORGIA
Receives food from Catholic Charities St. Lucy Project

The need continues to grow:



Source: Catholic Charities tracking systems, fiscal years 2022-2024





Because love is the answer.

JANUARY 23-24, 2025 | AT EAGLEBANK ARENA
Fairfax, VA

Night of Praise + Morning Rally & Mass

Featuring dynamic speakers & musicians,
Adoration, relics, and more!

Details / To Register
lifefestrally.com



Knights of Columbus

SISTERS OF LIFE



Marriage Enrichment Ministry

Communications in Marriage

ART OF BEING PRESENT

Date Night!

Saturday, January 11
6:30- 8:30 PM
Nativity Cafeteria

Childcare &
Dinner Provided



Register at:
<https://nativityburke.org/date-night/>
Contact: Anna Lisa Licud
marriage@nativityburke.org



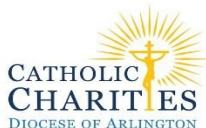
Jeanine Turner
Professor & Author
Georgetown University

Live Your Faith, Adopt a Child.

Foster Care Adoption is a Pro Life Choice



Scan the QR code to learn more about Catholic Charities Waiting Child Adoption Program



ECHO Collection This weekend 7/8 December Food Room Most Needed Items

ECHO's Food Room continues to break records. We collected 495 lbs on November 2/3.

- 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!!

*Protein Items, e.g., can chicken, Spam, chili, Tin Fish (tuna, sardines, salmon, etc.), Canned Fruit, Bagged Beans (black, red, or garbanzo preferred), Lentils, Spaghetti (pasta and sauce) Instant and Ground Coffee, Canned Tomatoes, Tomato (paste and Tomato Sauce), Baked Beans, Bagged Rice (white, jasmine or basmati), Instant (Box) Potatoes, Crackers, Ramen, Can milk, shelf stable milk, Boxed Pasta, Juice (Bottles or box), Tea (Green, Herbal or Black), Healthy Snacks, Spices (garlic, onion, cinnamon, salt, pepper), Masa (Corn) Flour, Boxed cereal, Lemon or Lime Juice, Jelly and Honey, Tortillas, Cooking Oil, Brown Paper Bags, Reusable Grocery Bags.
Children's Toothbrushes, Laundry Detergent, Toilet Paper, Deodorant, Shampoo, Facial Tissues, Dish Soap, Paper Towels Body/Hand Lotion, Band Aids, Shaving Cream/Razors, Diapers - Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Baby Wipes, Sanitary Napkins.*



Handmaids Of Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA 22015



October 2024

Dear Nativity Family,

We hope this letter finds you well and filled with God's grace. We are reaching out on behalf of the dedicated religious sisters of our mission, who work tirelessly to spread faith, love, and compassion in the Congo. With gratitude and hope, we invite you to support our mission through three key efforts:

1. **School and Convent Construction** – Help us lay the foundation for education in the Congo by building a school and convent, transforming young lives and ensuring the future of our mission.
2. **Clinic Support in Nassian, Ivory Coast** – Your gift will sustain medical care for those with limited access to healthcare, offering healing and hope to the most vulnerable.
3. **Food Pantry for Rural Areas** – Your donation will help us expand food distribution to families in rural areas, addressing hunger and nourishing bodies and spirits.
4. **Retirement and Financial Support for Our Sisters** – Assist us in providing medical care and financial support for our sisters as they retire, ensuring their well-being after years of devoted service.
5. **Supplies and Education for Our Sisters** – Your support will provide essential resources and learning opportunities for the sisters, enabling them to continue their vital work.

Every donation, big or small, makes a difference. You can donate online at handmaidsofreparation.org, send a check payable to Handmaids of Reparation, or scan the QR code below.

Thank you for your generosity. Your contribution is more than financial support—it's a beautiful act of faith and solidarity. Please keep our mission in your prayers, and together, let's bring light and love to the people of Congo.

In faith and gratitude,
 Sister Donatella Merulla, A.R.
 Sister Mary Attilia Todaro, A.R.
And all the Handmaids of Reparation Sisters





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:

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



Contact Mrs. Shannon Murphy
at (703) 455-2300
and/or smurph@nativityschool.org.

Important Upcoming Dates ~

- Monday, Dec 9 – 6th Grade Virtue Presentation
- Monday, Dec 9 – Santa’s Workshop Begins
- Monday, Dec 9 – Pencil Gram Sales Begin
- Monday, Dec 9 – 9 AM, Santa’s Ride Donate Due
- Tuesday, Dec 10 – Santa’s Ride at Nativity
- Wednesday, Dec 11- Confessions, 5th Grade
- Friday, Dec 13 – Confessions, 8th Grade
- Saturday, Dec 14 – SeaPerch Meeting, 9-12 NOON
- Monday, Dec 16 – Ugly Sweater Day
- Monday, Dec 16 – Decorated Trees Due
- Monday, Dec 16 – Confessions, 6th Grade
- Wednesday, Dec 18 - Confessions, 7th Grade
- Wednesday, Dec 18 - Preschool/PreK Party
- Wednesday, Dec 18 - Christmas Pageant, 7 PM
- Thursday, Dec 19 – PJ & Polar Express Day
- Friday, Dec 20 – 11:30 AM, Early Dismissal

**Join the Nativity School Extended Care Team!
Love Working With Children? Creative with Fingerpaint?
The following qualifications are necessary:**

- A LOVE of Children!
- ‘Can-Do’ Attitude
- Afternoon Availability, 2:30 to 6:00 pm
- Diocesan Compliance to Work With Kids

To apply, contact Jen Behan, Director, at
jbehan@nativityschool.org.



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



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

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.

Linktree Universal Sign-up Link:

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

Breakfast with Santa: Saturday, December 7 in the school cafeteria. Sign up to share some holiday cheer with our young families! SUG pending

Food for Others: Volunteer for food distribution to the poor, delivered on designated Thursday or Friday evenings. For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net. Fridays, contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com. Deliver food from Giant to the FFO warehouse Tuesday mornings; contact Br. Bob Colella robert.colella.86@gmail.com.

Name Tags: If you have not received your name tag, email warden7992@nativityburke.org.

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

Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies: We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. 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 navyy8@yahoo.com.

3rd Degree Knights - Grow with 4th Degree: participate in patriotic activities that promote Catholic citizenship. There is no regular meeting in November due to the Flag Retirement Ceremony (see above). Next meeting is December 10. If you are interested, please contact our Faithful Navigator Mark Corzine at fn2996@vakofc.org.

Join the Knights! The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend values in a busy changing world. Please email our Deputy Grand Knight, Michael Bender, at dgk7992@nativityburke.org, or the Grand Knight, Chris Odell with any questions.

Nativity Catholic Church

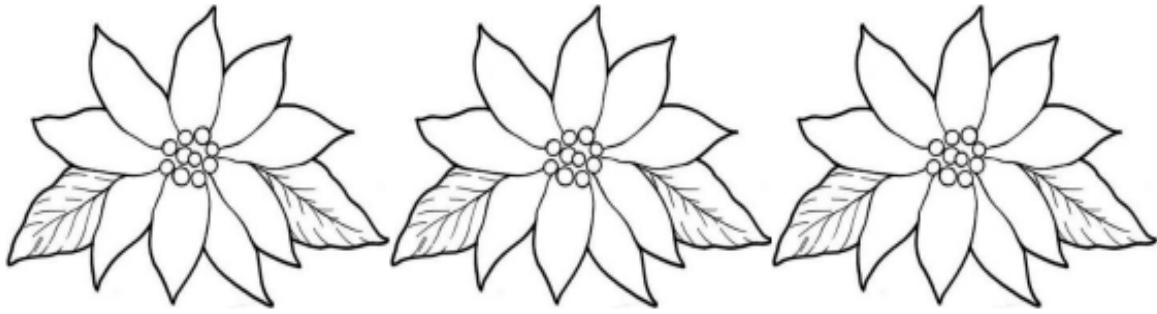


EMAIL & TEXTING SCAM ALERT

Nativity parishioners, please be aware of email scammers posing as Nativity priests. If you receive an email or text from any Nativity clergy urgently asking you for favors or money, this is a scam. Please ignore and block the sender. If you have any questions, please call the Nativity Parish office: (703) 455-2400

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.



Dear Friends,

We would like to invite you to help decorate our parish home, Nativity Church, for Christmas. If you would like to share in decorating our Christmas Sanctuary, please fill in the bottom of this flyer and drop it by the parish office after any Mass, **no later than Monday, December 16th**. Your gift will be acknowledged in the Christmas Bulletin. **Please return the entire sheet – do not cut!**

Thank you,
Msgr. Bob Cilinski

.....
*(Please fill in the information requested below and **attach** your gift to this sheet.)*

Print clearly the information **EXACTLY** the way you would like it to appear in the Christmas Bulletin. If you prefer to be **ANONYMOUS**, please check here _____ and only the special intention or the deceased name(s) will appear in the bulletin, **NOT YOURS**.

Flowers Given by: _____

.....
*(Print your name(s) or your family name **EXACTLY** the way you would like it to appear.)*

In Loving Memory of: _____

(Print the name(s) of the deceased/or write in your own special intention.)

.....
Nothing below this line appears in the bulletin. This information is for your gift **ONLY**.

NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR – Even if you have asked to remain anonymous in the bulletin.

PHONE NUMBER: _____ AMOUNT OF GIFT \$ _____

Your parish envelope number (if possible) _____

WORKCAMP 2025 Registration Open

Teens currently in grades 9-12 are invited to a week-long overnight camp providing them with an opportunity to encounter Christ through service, faith, and fellowship.

Applications for teens and adult volunteers are open now through **January 20**.

Contact:
wc@nativityburke.org



Gifts for Seminarian Education Endowment Fund (SEEF)

Please support our seminarians and SEEF, a permanent endowment fund established in 2011. SEEF's income provides funding for annual seminarian expenses such as room, board, tuition, health insurance and books, which total almost \$45,000 per seminarian. Please give generously!

To donate, make checks payable to: "Foundation for the CDA - SEEF." Mail to: The Foundation, 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203. Questions: contact John French at john.french@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-3819.

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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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Book for 2025 is now open. This is a thoughtful way to honor a loved one, living or deceased. If you are interested, please stop by the parish office to sign up. You can now also go online and reserve flowers on our website at: <https://nativityburke.org/altar-flowers/>.

Sick / Homebound Visits

Are you or someone you know sick and/or homebound for any reason? We can arrange home visits from the parish and provide prayer and the sacraments. We would love to bring God's Grace and Peace to anyone in difficult times.

Please contact Cat Sands, Pastoral Minister, at csands@nativityburke.org to schedule a visit.

NO HANDS BUT YOURS MINISTRY



No Hands But Yours is an original Nativity Ministry doing God's work by serving those less fortunate members of His flock. We work distributing food, clothing, and personal items to the poor and homeless in DC and northern VA every Sunday morning, rain or shine.

We also have weekly trips into designated areas bringing Panera bread donations along with help from local food banks. Through the blessings of God, we have grown through our Nativity community and continue to do so. For more details visit the Nativity Parish website at <https://nativityburke.org/service/no-hands-but-yours/>. Families are also welcomed! If you have interest in learning more and would like to participate in daily/Sunday runs, please contact John Rubino at: john.albert.rubino@gmail.com.

save the date

Nativity
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

GALA & AUCTION

bids, booty, and a pirate mystery

Saturday, April 5, 2025
6:30 p.m.

Nativity Catholic School
Fr. Martin Center



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Sunday, December 15
3:30 pm

Cathedral of Saint Thomas More

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Bishop Burbidge has over 25,000 followers on Twitter! His daily reflections and posts are popular and insightful. Follow him [@BishopBurbidge](https://twitter.com/BishopBurbidge).

Volunteers Needed: The St. Martin de Porres Senior Center provides a variety of services to prevent isolation of seniors and promote their wellness, happiness, and independence. The senior center is a multicultural community, with more than 20 countries represented. St. Martin de Porres Senior Center provides congregate meals, health screenings, exercises, educational activities, and numerous activities.

Volunteers needs: exercise instructors, nurse or nursing students, computer and tech instructors, breakfast and lunch volunteers, nutritionist, activities assistant, arts and crafts leader, and presenter of topics of interest to seniors. The senior center is located at 4650 Taney Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304.

To volunteer, contact Maria Mellor at 703-751-2766 or maria.mellor@ccd.net.

YOU ARE PERSONALLY INVITED TO A....

Men's Evening of Reflection

DATE: DECEMBER 18TH

TIME: 7:00 - 9:30 PM

LOCATION: DIVINE MERCY UNIVERSITY

45154 UNDERWOOD LN, STERLING, VA 20166

REGISTRATION FEE: ~~\$30~~ \$25 UNTIL DEC 13TH

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FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT:
RCMENSSECTIONVA@GMAIL.COM



REGNUM CHRISTI
WASHINGTON DC

II Domingo de Adviento, Cicio C Juan el Bautista, profeta del Altísimo

Autor: P. Raniero Cantalamessa, ofmcap Sitio Web: P. Raniero Cantalamessa, ofmcap Baruc 5, 1-9; Filipenses 1, 4-6.8-11; Lucas 3, 1-6

El Evangelia de este domingo se ocupa por entero de la figura de Juan el Bautista. Desde el momento de su nacimiento, Juan el Bautista fue saludado por su padre Zacarias como profeta: «Y tu, niño, serás llamado profeta del Altísimo, pues irás delante del Señor para preparar sus caminos» (Le 1, 76).

¿Que hizo el Precursor para ser definido como un profeta, es más, «el mayor de los profetas» (Le 7, 28)? Ante todo, tras la estela de los antiguos profetas de Israel, predicó contra la opresión y la injusticia social. En el Evangelia del domingo siguiente le oiremos decir: «El que tenga dos tunicas, que las reparta con el que no tiene; el que tenga para comer, que haga lo mismo». A los publicanos [recaudadores de impuestos. Ndt.], que tan frecuentemente desangraban a los pobres con requerimientos arbitrarios, les dice: «No exijais más de lo que os está fijado». A los soldados, inclinados a la violencia: «No hagais extorsión a nadie, no hagais denuncias falsas» (Le 3, 11-14). También las palabras sobre los montes que hay que rebajar, los barrancos por colmar y los pasos tortuosos por hacer rectos, podríamos hoy entenderlas así: «Toda injusta diferencia social entre riquísimos (los mantes) y pauperrimos (los barrancos) debe ser eliminada o al menos reducida; los caminos tortuosos de la corrupción y del engaño deben ser enderezados».

Hasta aquí reconocemos fácilmente la idea que actualmente tenemos de) profeta: alguien que impulsa al cambio; que denuncia las deformaciones del sistema, que apunta su dedo contra el poder en todas sus formas - religioso, económico, militar - y se atreve a gritar en la cara del tirano: «No tees lícito!» (Mt 14, 4).

Pero Juan el Bautista hace también una segunda cosa: da al pueblo el «conocimiento de salvación por el perdón de sus pecados» (Le 1, 77). ¿Dónde está, podríamos preguntarnos, la profecía en este caso? Los profetas anunciaban una salvación futura; pero Juan el Bautista no anuncia una salvación futura; indica a uno que está presente. Él es quien apunta su dedo hacia una persona y grita: «¡Aquí está!» (Jn 1, 29). «Aquello que se ha esperado durante siglos y siglos está aquí, ¡es Él!». ¡Que estremecimiento debió recorrer aquel día el cuerpo de los presentes que le oyeron hablar así!

Los profetas tradicionales ayudaban a sus contemporáneos a superar el muro de) tiempo y mirar el futuro, pero él ayuda a superar el muro, aun más grueso, de las apariencias contrarias y permite descubrir al Mesías oculto tras el aspecto de un hombre como los demás. El Bautista inauguraba así la nueva profecía cristiana, que no consiste en anunciar una salvación futura («en los últimos tiempos»), sino en revelar la presencia escondida de Cristo en el mundo.

¿Que tiene que decimos todo esto a nosotros? Que también debemos mantener juntas esos dos aspectos del ministerio profético: compromiso por la justicia social por una parte, y anuncio del Evangelia por otra. No podemos partir por la mitad esta tarea, ni un sentido ni en otro. Un anuncio de Cristo, sin el acompañamiento del esfuerzo por la promoción humana, resultaría desencamado y poco creíble; un compromiso por la justicia, privado del anuncio de fe y del contacto regenerador con la palabra de Dios, se agotaría pronto, o acabaría en estéril contestación.

Nos dice también que anuncio del Evangelia y lucha por la justicia no deben quedarse como cosas yuxtapuestas, sin vínculo entre sí. Debe ser precisamente el Evangelia de Cristo el que nos impulse a luchar por el respeto del hombre, de forma que se haga posible a todo hombre «ver la salvación de Dios». Juan el Bautista no predicaba contra los abusos como agitador social, sino como heraldo del Evangelia, «para preparar al Señor un pueblo bien dispuesto» (Le 1, 17).

[Traducción del italiano realizada por Zenit]



**Iglesia de la Natividad te invita a una celebración de
nuestra Señora de Guadalupe El sábado 14 de diciembre a las 6:45pm.
La Misa comienza a las 6:45pm, seguida por una procesión al Centro Padre Martin
(gimnasio). Habrá una banda de mariachis junto a los Bailarines Folklorico.**

Invocamos tu intercesión, Mader, nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Nos apareces de maneras que podemos entender. Oramos por todos nuestros hermanos católicos cristianos que sufren persecución religiosa por su fe.

Les pedimos que los cubran en su manto, les den coraje de corazón y firme fe en la presencia de su hijo en su sufrimiento.

Amén



And what will the people see?

Supply the missing letter to spell out the words to fill in the blanks below.

JE__US

TE__CHER

TEMP__E

HEA__EN

BO__T

BAP__ISM

F__SH

PR__PHECY

MOUNTAI__



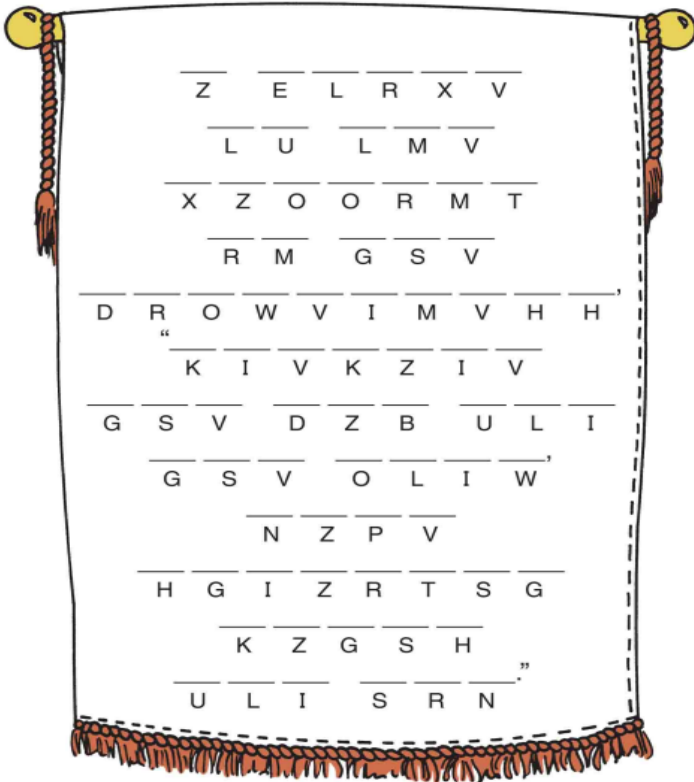
And all
humankind
will see God's

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What was written in the book of Isaiah that was like what John did?

Use this code to fill in the blanks below.

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



Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

December 8, 2024 • Luke 3:1-6



John Tells People to Repent

The Word of God came to John in the wilderness. What did John do then?

Find the correct path through the maze to read the answer.

START

	went	earth	gathered	
	went	The	worked	When
He				laborers
storm	trees	into		of
the	found	baptism	also	
	all	path		morning
	owners	a	wind	you
	to	angry	the	go
among	thirsty	robbed	away.	repentance
	country		preaching	
sandal	strolled	rocks		
	around	lost	rain	
shepherd	sun	the	Jordan,	for
	forgiveness		the	us
		birds	ruined	and
As		lame	mountain	the
	of			sins.

FINISH

What else did Isaiah say would take place?

Use this code to fill in the blanks.

22	shall	1	the
2	every	3	be
		4	The
			5
			rough
6	hill	7	filled
		8	shall
			9
			crooked
10	Every	11	smooth
		12	become
			13
			ways
14	straight	15	low
		16	valley
			17
			in
18	made	19	mountain
		20	roads
			21
			and
		10	16
			8
		3	7
			17
			2
		19	21
			6
			18
		15	4
			9
			20
		22	12
			14
		1	5
			13
			11

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