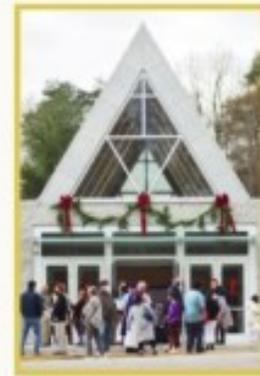


I AM BAPTIZING YOU WITH WATER
**BUT ONE MIGHTIER
THAN I IS COMING**



**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
mrnturner@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:
socialmedia@nativityburke.org

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

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



“Rejoice in the Lord always. Your kindness should be shown to all.” - Phil 4:4

My dear parishioners,

Happy Gaudete Sunday! Hope and Joy are Advent qualities. Advent Hope accepts the promise of John the Baptist that *“one is coming after me”* who will baptize not with water but with the Holy Spirit, one so great that John will be unworthy even to untie his sandals.

Mary is the symbol of Advent Joy. December 12th the Church of the Americas celebrated the feast of Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe. Just 40 years after the first voyage of Columbus, the Mother of God showed herself to an unlettered aboriginal man named Juan Diego. She showed herself as a pregnant woman, joyfully awaiting the birth of her child. She showed herself with the features and complexion of the aboriginal peoples of Mexico and she even spoke their language. She showed herself as Mother of God and as Mother of the tribes of Mexico. Mary identified herself with the poorest, the lowliest, the outcast. She brought to the peoples of the Americas a joyful hope and light.

Today our parish rejoices and is renewed in our Hope. God is faithful to his promise. In our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and our Lady of Guadalupe, we can rejoice in God's love for us and the Blessed Mother's intercession.

Through our parish tithing and second collections, the poor box, the Catholic Charities Collection and the Giving Tree, we share with the poor and needy. As a community, we welcome the stranger and those new to America with the spirit of Christ and His Mother Mary. We wait in joyful hope for the coming of the Lord to be our light, to make us holy and to accompany us on our way. *“Pilgrims of Hope”* is the theme Pope Francis has chosen for the Holy Year 2025 that begins on Christmas Eve.

Love and blessings,

Bob Cilinski
Msgr. Bob Cilinski
Pastor



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 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.

The Importance of Sunday Mass

As the body will die without food, the soul will expire without nourishment. As Catholics, that spiritual nourishment comes at the Sunday Eucharist. The Lord's Day is essential for our faith. Make Sunday Mass the heart of your week.

**TESTIMONIAL FROM PERRY FAMILY
RECEPIENTS OF NATIVITY'S 26TH
HOME IN APPALACHIA**

Growing up I always had goals and dreams in life I was striving for. At the young age of 17, my life changed forever when I found out I was having a son. I knew I had to grow up quick because I wasn't my only responsibility anymore. It was hard at first but I did what I needed to do.

I tried to provide the best I could so he would have the best life possible. At the age of three I gained full custody of my son. As a young parent I struggled to provide for him, so my parents helped me every chance they could. I was able to provide most of the basic needs for him, but struggled to be able to provide a house of our own.

For 13 years we lived with my parents in a 3 bedroom trailer. We made it work for us although a home of our own was always needed. Our lives changed forever one day and a blessing like no other occurred, thanks to the Good Shepherd group and all of the volunteers that helped in the process. This blessing goes beyond a structure and allows my son and I to grow closer together and continue to build our friendship and bond together. I always worried and pushed to do better for him, now I rest easy knowing that no matter what life brings our way, that he will always have a place to call home. We are very grateful as a family and can not express enough how much this home has impacted our lives for the better.

Thank you to everyone that has had an impact on our home and all of the other blessings. The act of kindness does not go unnoticed and as a family we are beyond thankful and blessed.

Thank you all,
Blake Perry and Elijah Perry



Nativity Catholic Church
Christmas & New Year
Mass Schedule 2024

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24
 *4:00pm | 6:00pm | 8:30pm | 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25
 7:00am | 9:00am | *11:00am | *1:00pm Spanish

New Year's Eve - Tuesday, December 31
 5:00pm Vigil Mass

New Year's Day - Wednesday, January 1
 *7:00am | 9:00am | *11:00am | 1:00pm Spanish

** Live Streamed*



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!

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

Creation Care Ministry wishes to thank everyone who played a role in the Fair Trade Market over Thanksgiving weekend! Total sales were over \$26,000, a new record, providing income and resources to the amazing Fair Trade artisans around the world. In addition, Creation Care receives 10% of the sales, funding our projects on campus throughout the year, without a drain on other church resources.

Thanks to our tireless volunteers at the market or narthex table--Mike Hathaway, Kathy and Chuck Walters, Mary Sullivan-Haller, Maria Rodriguez, Linda Nordstrom, Anne Zimmerman, Fran, Ben and Bauer Bancheck, Sarah Pacheco, Patricia Molseed and her daughter, Neil Perry, Carolyn Porter, Patty Barbu, and Sue Bomar. (I hope I didn't miss anyone.) Some of you were on your feet for hours, unpacking, arranging, re-packing, wrapping, assisting shoppers, running up and down the stairs, and smiling!

Thank you to Msgr. Bob for his ongoing support of Creation Care and the entire Fair Trade effort and Father Bresnahan for his most enthusiastic reading of the announcements! Kudos to Mary Castellano for her fun Facebook and Instagram posts, Emilia Hartline for a great webpage presence, Caroline Chase for always making our bulletin blurbs prominent and attractive, Adrienne Swidal for never messing up the calendar dates and answering all our signage questions, MEM leaders Jennifer Sturgeon for advertising with MEM and Anna Lisa Licud for helping enthusiastically almost all day Sunday, Maria Ammirati for helping to recruit the teen volunteers, and Maureen Andersen for assistance with narthex arrangements and announcements. And thank you to caterer Sylvia for the generous loan of the tablecloths and to Helen and the Virginia Green Baggers who provided 100 free reusable bags which our shopping parishioners LOVE!

And last but not least, special thanks to Paul Culler, Sarah and Ben, and everyone at Fair Trade Winds for their tireless work on behalf of the Fair Trade artisans and for helping us to arrange a successful sale. Special thanks to Emily at FTW who makes our fliers each year.

To all a blessed remainder of the Advent Season and a joyous Christmas!

ABORTION HEALING SUPPORT
IS AVAILABLE FOR YOU

after abortion

info@helpafterabortion.org
confidential after abortion care:
(703) 841-2504

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 mmtturner@ccda.net.

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.

What is our current culture's belief system that is displacing Christianity and how do we stand strong?

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

Msgr. Shea will describe this diabolical 'new religion', illustrate how Christians can unintentionally be formed by it instead of by Jesus Christ, and then encourage us on how to stand strong against it. Discussion to follow.

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.

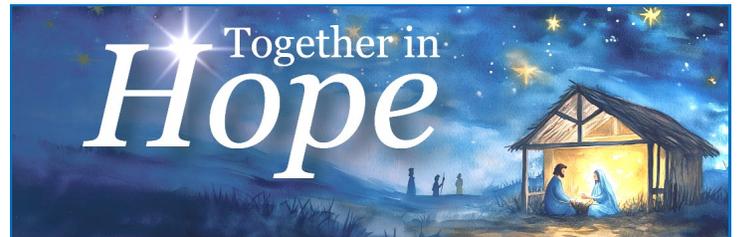
The Gift shop also carries many wonderful Advent & Christmas items: ornaments, advent candles, Nativity sets, cards etc. Open after all Masses. (except the 5:30pm Sunday Mass, volunteers urgently needed!)



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 **Conference Room** (note new location) 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!!



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



MASS INTENTIONS & MASS SCHEDULE

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

Monday, December 16th

7:30 am † Ethel Gerencser

Tuesday, December 17th

7:30 am † Melba Garcia
12:00 pm † Lisa Celestino

Wednesday, December 18th

7:30 am † Karol Golinowski
3:00 pm † Ursula Lemanski (*Burke Healthcare*)

Thursday, December 19th

7:30 am † Augusto & Hershelieda
12:00 pm † John Heavy

Friday, December 20th

7:30 am † Rita Miles
9:00 am † Cecilia Faye Severs

Saturday, December 21st

9:00 am † Bernadette Bracey
5:00 pm Parishioners
7:00 pm Special Int. for Robert Julien Pauly

Sunday, December 22nd

7:00 am † Jairo Gustavo Vargas
9:00 am † Maryann Pilot
11:00 am † Peter J. Joyce
1:00 pm † David Forville
5:30 pm † Yolanda Malferrari

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

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.

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

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!

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.

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 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)

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.



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.

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.



Follow Bishop Burbidge on X!

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).



Christmas & Year End Office Schedule

Monday, December 23 - Office open all day

**Tuesday, December 24 - Friday, December 27
Office closed all day**

Saturday, December 28 - Open 9:00am - 5:00pm

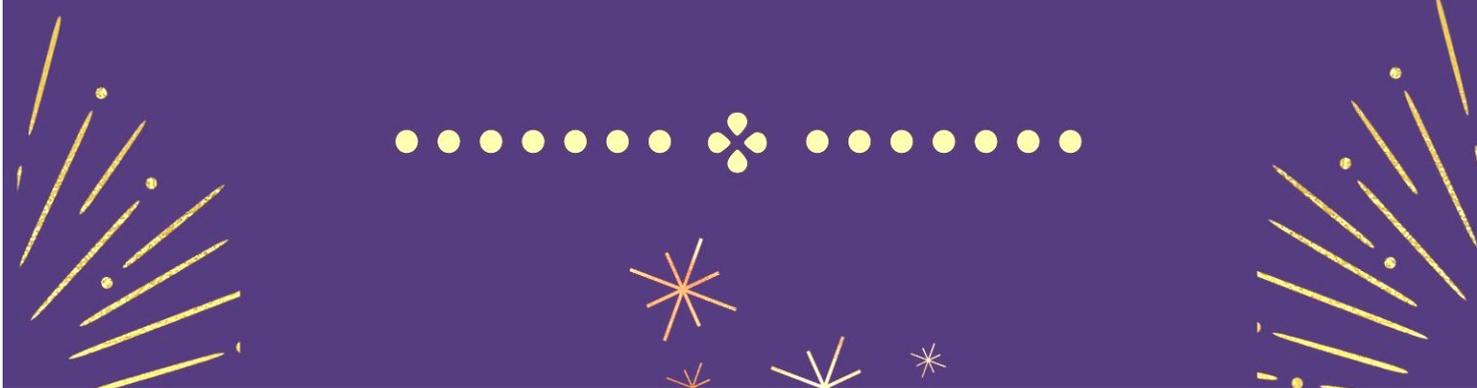
Sunday, December 29 - Open 9:00am - 2:00pm

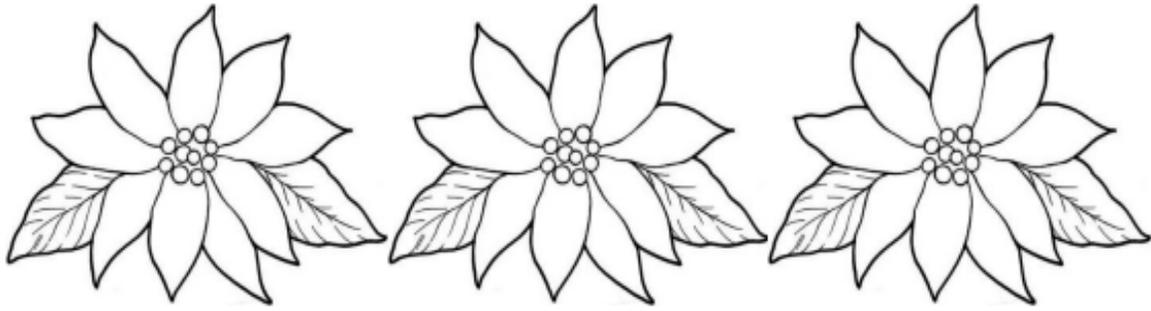
Monday, December 30 - Friday, January 3

Office closed all day

Saturday, January 4 - Open 9:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday, January 5 - Open 9:00am - 2:00pm





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) _____

"TOGETHER, WE CAN LIGHT THE WAY: HELP SISTER DONATELLA AND SISTER MARY ATTILIA REACH THEIR ADVENT MISSION GOAL!"

ADVENT PROJECT 2024-2025



This Advent season, join us in supporting our dedicated Religious Sisters in their mission to serve communities in need. Together, we can make a meaningful impact through:

- Building Schools and Convents in the Congo to provide education and faith formation.
- Sustaining Medical Clinics in Nassian, Ivory Coast, to bring healing and care.
- Expanding Food Pantries to nourish families in rural areas.
- Caring for Retired Sisters who have given a lifetime of service.
- Empowering Sisters with Resources and Education to continue their vital work.

Every gift helps spread God's love and hope to those most in need.

Donate today by scanning QR-Code, visiting their website or by check payable to "Handmaids of Reparation." Thank you for your generosity and prayers. Together, we can make a difference this Advent season!



handmaidsofpreparation.org



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

Nativity Students Prepare Their Turkeys With Creative Flair

Our Nativity Star families used the Turkey Decorating Contest to shine, exploring their imaginations and creativity to turn a wooden turkey into a treasured piece of art. "We want to thank all of those families who decorated and submitted their turkey," said Ms. Kelly. "There were a lot of wonderfully decorated turkeys and that made it difficult to decide on the winners." Prizes were awarded in three categories: Most Holiday Themed, Most Creative, and Most Spiritual. Congratulations to the Namata; Ramirez Villa; and Villa Padilla families on your winning turkeys. See photos below.



Most Holiday Themed - Namata Family (Lilyana, Paolo, Enzo & Christian)



Most Creative - Ramirez Villa Family (Santiago & Nicholas)



Most Spiritual - Villa Padilla Family (Rebecca & Benjamin)

Thank you to all for participating!

Important Upcoming Dates ~

- 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 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! Yes, Catholic education is worth the investment!

 **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 Warden Steve Resch at 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 January 14. 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.

Employment Opportunities in the Diocese
 Find the perfect
 Opportunity at: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/human-resources/employment-opportunities/>

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

..... ❖

Friday, December 20

The Parish Office Closes

at 12:00 noon

..... ❖

Parish App Feature-of-the-Week

- Thoughts on Catholic life
- Informative and inspirational
- Simple insight for living a deeper faith everyday

Learn more or download our parish app at myparishapp.com

*Available on Apple and Android Phones.

Inspiration Daily

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.

NATIVITY - BAPTISM PROCEDURES

We are currently scheduling group Baptisms on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 2:00 pm in the Church for registered Nativity Parishioners. To register at Nativity Parish, please stop by the parish office or visit our website to download the form.

TO SCHEDULE A BAPTISM

Step 1: Paperwork
To begin the process, please first complete our Baptism Application which can be picked up from the parish office or downloaded from our website at: <https://nativityburke.org/baptism/>

Please bring the following to the Parish Office:

1. Copy of child’s Birth Certificate
2. A certificate of eligibility for your Catholic godparents. Please review our Godparent Requirements. Godparents who are registered members of Nativity DO NOT need to provide a certificate.
3. Completed Baptism Application.

Scheduling the date of the Baptism will take place ONLY after these items are received.

Step 2: Preparation for New Parents
If this is your first child (congratulations!), in addition to providing the above paperwork, parents must attend a Baptism Prep class. Godparents are welcome, too. Register Online for our Baptism Prep class at: <https://nativityburke.org/baptism/#preparation>

Step 3: Nativity Schedules the Baptism Date
At this point, please call our Baptismal Coordinator, Anna Marty, to review your paperwork, discuss any questions, and schedule the date and time of the Baptism. She is available Monday - Wednesday at the parish office, please call 703-455-2400 or email amarty@nativityburke.org.

We cannot schedule anything before we have ALL paperwork completed and turned in!

ENGAGED AND MARRIED COUPLES

Marriage Enrichment Ministry

JOIN US



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

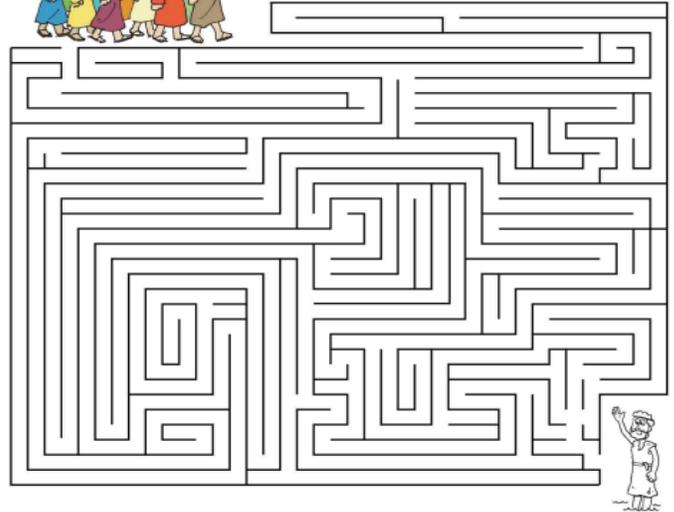




John Preaches Good News

Crowds of people came to John.

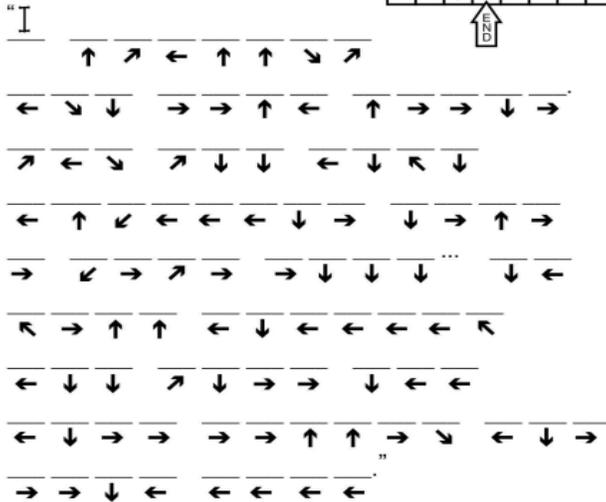
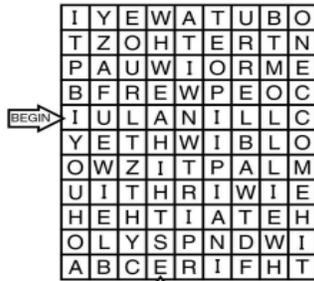
Help the people get to John.



The people were wondering in their hearts if John might be the Christ. What did John answer?



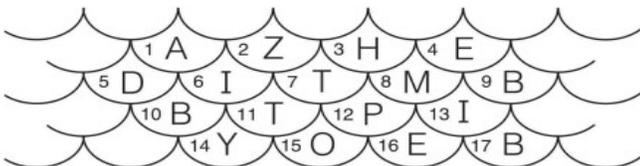
Follow the arrows through the letters to find John's answer.



Why did the crowds come to John?



Write the letters from the water on the lines.



7 15 10 4



17 1 12 11 13 2 16 5

9 14 3 6 8

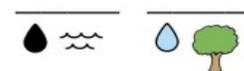
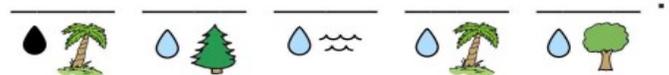


The people asked John what they should do to be children of God. What were two things John said?

Use the code and fill in the blanks below to find the answer.



	A	E	H	R
	B	F	I	S



DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO - C**Evangelio de la Misa: Lc 3,10-18****Un corazón grande**

El Evangelio de la Misa sigue proponiendo a Juan el Bautista como personaje central en esta preparación espiritual que el cristiano ha de hacer para

la celebración cristiana del Nacimiento de Cristo.

Al Bautista se le acercan las gentes de Palestina deseosos de encontrar el

mejor consejo para su vida y la más acertada consigna que les oriente en aquel

momento de expectativa por la inminente llegada del Mesías.

Querían respuestas

concretas, factibles en la práctica y que todos puedan valorar convenientemente.

Quiero, Señor, acompañar, como uno más a los que seguían a Juan.

Quiero escuchar de primera mano las preguntas y respuestas de un maestro tan singular por el ejemplo de su vida entregada y austera, y por la energía y curiosidad que despierta con sus palabras.

Una vez más te digo, y lo quiero repetir cada mañana, al comenzar la jornada, con el ofrecimiento de las obras del día: "Señor, entonces, ¿qué he de hacer?". Te prometo, Señor, no olvidar las respuestas tan nítidas y concretas, como exigentes y explosivas del Bautista: caridad, solidaridad, comprensión, acogida y perdón.

No hay otro camino para mantenerme a la espera, para acogerte y seguirte como Tú deseas, y también como yo prefiero. pues comprendo que esos son los cauces para articular la convivencia social

y la paz entre los pueblos, y en el mismo seno de las familias, así como para la verdadera satisfacción y felicidad personal.

Además no quiero olvidar lo que puntualiza y nos enseña la Iglesia,

y machaconamente nos reafirma el Papa Benedicto XVI: no es suficiente

la justicia social, aunque esta sea imprescindible, sino que hace falta

la caridad y el amor sobrenatural como Tu nos has enseñado a vivir.

¡Qué grave responsabilidad tenemos los cristianos, que conocemos,

y en principio aceptamos, tu doctrina! ¡Qué poco se me nota en la práctica, a pesar de estar convencido de poseer

el mayor tesoro, que Tu nos has dado: la fe!

Ayúdame, Señor, cada día, a repartir, o mejor compartir, "mis túnicas",

mi poder, mi dinero, mis cualidades, mi tiempo, mi Amor de Dios; a no exigir más de lo establecido a nadie, a ser el primero en trabajar

y en hacer rendir mis talentos, y a la vez a saber conformarme con lo mío,

y ser exigente en la ayuda y en la caridad con el prójimo.

Cuento, Señor, con tu Santo Espíritu, para mantener un corazón grande,

para alimentar un fuego arrollador de buenas obras

y para disfrutar de tu gracia, de tu amor y de tu salvación.

Padre Segismundo Fernandez Rodríguez

APRENDE TU FE

¿Por qué el nombre de Guadalupe? México



El origen del nombre Guadalupe siempre ha sido motivo de controversias

"Manifestó su tío ser cierto que entonces le sanó y que la vió del mismo modo en que se aparecía a su sobrino; sabiendo por Ella que le había enviado a México a ver al Obispo. También entonces le dijo la Señora de cuando él fuera a ver al Obispo, le revelara lo que vió y de que manera milagrosa le había sanado; y que bien le nombraría, así como bien había de nombrarse su bendita imagen, la siempre *Virgen Santa María de Guadalupe*". (Nican Mopohua)

¿Por qué habría la Virgen María, apareciéndose a un indio en el recientemente conquistado México y hablándole en su idioma nativo, Náhuatl, querer llamarse "de Guadalupe", un nombre español?

¿Quizó ella en todo caso ser llamada de Guadalupe por la estatua de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en Extremadura, España?

En sus apariciones a lo largo de los siglos la Santísima Virgen María se identificó a sí misma con su nombre o uno de sus Títulos, y fué generalmente luego conocida con el nombre del lugar donde ocurrieron las apariciones (Fátima, Lourdes, etc.).

¿Entonces por qué la Virgen, apareciéndose a un indio en el México recién invadido y hablándole en su idioma nativo, hubiera querido ser llamada con el nombre en español de Guadalupe?

¿Estaba Ella quizás refiriéndose a la milagrosa estatua de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, la que fué otorgada por el Papa Gregorio el Grande al Arzobispo de Sevilla, que estuvo perdida por 600 años y fué encontrada por Gil Cordero guiado por una aparición de Nuestra Señora? La milagrosa y muy venerada estatua fué nombrada de Guadalupe porque así se llamaba el poblado ubicado cerca al lugar del descubrimiento.

El origen del nombre Guadalupe siempre ha sido motivo de controversias, y muchas posibles explicaciones han sido dadas. Se cree sin embargo como la mas acertada que el nombre es el resultado de la traducción del nahuatl al español de las palabras usadas por la Virgen durante su aparición a Juan Bernardino, el tío enfermo de Juan Diego.

Se cree que Nuestra Señora usó el término azteca (náhuatl) de coatlaxopeuh, el cual es pronunciado "quatlasupe" y suena extremadamente parecido a la palabra en español Guadalupe. Coa significando serpiente, tla el artículo "la", mientras xopeuh significa aplastar. Así Nuestra Señora se debió haber referido a ella misma como "la que aplasta la serpiente."

Debemos recordar que los Aztecas ofrecían anualmente mas de 20,000 hombres, mujeres y niños como sacrificios humanos a sus dioses, ritos que en muchos casos incluían el canibalismo de los cuerpos de las víctimas. En 1487, debido a la dedicación de un nuevo templo en Tenochtitlán, unos 80,000 cautivos fueron inmolados en sacrificios humanos en una sola ceremonia que duró cuatro días.

Ciertamente en México, con la conversión de millones de los habitantes al cristianismo, Ella aplastó la serpiente.



Horario de las Misas de Navidad

Martes, 24 de diciembre

* 4:00pm, 6:00pm, 8:30pm, Medianoche

Miercoles, 25 de diciembre | Navidad

7:00am, 9:00am, * 11:00am,

* 1:00pm (Español)

* Transmisión en vivo en YouTube



Feliz Navidad

BURKE FAMILY ORTHODONTICS
Dr. Kevin Toms
Dr. Rodney Klima
 Braces & Invisalign
 Children & Adults
 703-425-5125
burkefamilyortho.com

SENIOR AND MILITARY DISCOUNTS!

FINANCING AVAILABLE

ROOFING
 DECKS • SIDING
 GUTTERS

FREE wind & hail Damage Inspections for Roofs

Insurance Claims Specialists

MidAtlantic
 COMMERCIAL CONTRACTORS

703-492-HOME (4663) or 571-408-4349
www.MAContracting.com

I ♥ SPARTANS
FAMILY RESTAURANT

9542 BURKE RD. BURKE, VA 22015
www.ILoveSpartans.com (703) 503-5800

ADVERTISE HERE

Promote your Business AND support your Parish.

Mike Jurosky - 717-648-5996
mjurosky@diocesan.com

catholicmatch
 Virginia
CatholicMatch.com/goVA

BOGACKI & BOGACKI
DDS, PC

Family and Cosmetic Dentistry
 Friendly and Courteous Staff

8344 Traford Lane
 Springfield, VA 22152
 (703) 451-2867
www.BogackiDental.com

IHOP RESTAURANT

Stop by before or after Mass.
 Come Hungry, Leave Happy
 We are always open!

WE ARE HIRING!
 Servers - Hostess
 any shift - full and part time

Open 24 Hours
 Great taste never sleeps

Your local Burke IHOP proudly supports Nativity Church.
 We are open 24 hours a day 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
 Free Wi-Fi, Kids Eat free on Tuesday nights, and Wednesday is Senior Night. See what's new at IHOP.

Make it an **IHOP** day.

Caffi SERVICES, INC

PLUMBING HEATING HVAC REMODELING

1313 POWHATAN STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22304-1342
(703) 836-6775
www.caffiservices.com
service@caffiservices.com
 Serving the DC Metropolitan Area since 1967

CLUB PILATES BURKE

Voted Best Pilates Studio in NoVa 3X

• TONE & STRENGTHEN
 • BOOST FLEXIBILITY
 • DECREASE STRESS

First Time? Try it FREE!




Located next to Kohl's and Chick-Fil-A in Burke Centre | CALL 703.691.5999 or www.clubpilates.com/nativityburke today

Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.

Simply go to www.DM.CHURCH/3134 ...or scan 

DISCOVERMASS

Rick's Clicks

Enjoy our Holiday Selfie Stations and Photos with Santa at the NoC Breakfast with Santa event

Elevate your fundraising, wedding, corporate event, or celebration with the ultimate photo experience! We bring the fun, laughter, and memories to life with our professional open-air photo booth

ricksclicks.com
email:ricksclicks.com
 571-234-6211
 Parishioners



Parishioners **BBB Accredited**

WM WILLIAMS MASONRY & HOME IMPROVEMENT, LLC

Fireplaces, Patio, Chimney, Bathroom & Kitchen Remodel, Painting and more

Tel: 703-296-3785
WWW.NORTHERNVAMASONRY.COM
info@northernvamationry.com

B.J. Pool & Spa
 A Full Service Pool and Spa Company



ACCOUNTING & TAX SOLUTIONS, INC

- Tax Preparation/Planning
- Individuals • Corporations • Partnerships • Estates • Trusts
- Accounting/Bookkeeping
- Payroll Services/Retirement Plans

Mary Elizabeth Nuti, EA - Parishioner
Admitted to practice before the Internal Revenue Service

703-451-1040 • 9243 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke

100% soy candle hand made in VA by a parishioner.

Call 703-505-6951 to order or visit candleswithheartshop.com to view on Etsy

Candles with Heart

ALL PROFITS ARE DONATED TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Parishioner
 Robert M Seh
 6413 Little Ox Rd.
 Fairfax Station, VA

703.323.1333
 703.239.0138
bob@bjpoolandspa.com
www.bjpoolandspa.com

MURPHY LAW GROUP, PLLC
Wills, Trusts, Estates, & More
9300-B Old Keene Mill Road, Burke, VA
703-455-7177
www.MurphyLawVA.com



MowCow
LAWN & LANDSCAPE
SIGN UP
INSTANTLY
ONLINE!
703-543-7600
MowCow.com/Leaf

James F. McIntyre
Certified Public Accountant
Parishioner
Jim@JFMcIntyreCPA.com
www.jfmcintyrecpa.com
(703) 391-1099

Peter K. Cocolis Jr., DMD
Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
• Quality Care • Latest Techniques
• Convenient Appointments
Call **703-912-3800**
www.smiles4va.com
PARISHIONER
5803 Rolling Road, Suite 211
Next to Interstate Van Lines

Captain Pell
703-560-0060
CAPTAINPELL.COM
10195 FAIRFAX BLVD FAIRFAX, VA 22030

FAIRFAX STATION
CHIROPRACTIC
& MASSAGE
fairfaxstationchiropractic.com
Christopher Virasky, D.C.
703-493-8445

Brennan's TREE SERVICE
703-218-8003
www.brennanstreeservice.com
10% off any tree work for parishioners
• Tree Removal • Spikeless Pruning • Stump Grinding
• Free Unsplit Wood • Lot Clearing • Tree Planting • Free Chips

MARY KAY
Joanne Fabish, Parishioner
Independent Beauty Consultant
703-455-8958
www.marykay.com/jfabish

TD Barber Shop
Thuan Do • Parishioner
9530 Old Keene Mill Road
Burke, VA 22015
(corner of Old Keene Mill & Leo Chapel)
(703) 913-4277
www.TDBarber.com
HOURS: Mon-Fri (9am - 7pm)
Sat (8am-5pm) • Sun (10am-4pm)

Merino's Maids LLC
House Cleaning
Maid service
Fully Licensed and Insured
• Excellent References • 25 Continuous years of Experience
• Weekly, Bi Weekly, Monthly
• Moving In-OUT Cleaning Specialist • Low Prices in Town
Call For A Free Estimate
(703) 867-2145 • Sandrimerino2145@gmail.com

GENERAL, IMPLANT & COSMETIC DENTISTRY
Robert D. Argentieri, DDS, FAGD
Cristian Alcantara, DDS
Providing Exceptional
Dental Care for 40 years
703-569-6644
www.springfielddental.com
6201 Old Keene Mill Court,
Springfield, VA 22152

I am truly blessed to have helped many of our parishioners
Diane A. Sundt, ABR, GRI, SRES
diane.sundt@LNF.com
703-615-4626
Over 20 Years Experience
Parishioner
Military Relocation
Specialist
Licensed in Virginia
6045 Burke Centre Pkwy
Burke, VA 22015




**Wills, Trusts, & Probate
for Catholic Families**
(703) 865-6100
Fairfax, VA

www.pjilaw.com | welcome@pjilaw.com

KELLIHER FAMILY DENTISTS
Jeremiah J. Kelliher, D.D.S.
Sean P. Kelliher, D.D.S.
Karen Kelliher Wilson, R.D.H.
Kathleen Kelliher Ketch, R.D.H.
(703) 451-5030
6120 Brandon Ave.
Suite 211, Springfield

Virginia Eyecare Center
VISION SOURCE
(703) 569-3131
Dr. Courtney Shay
Dr. Tim LaFreniere
Dr. Kathryn Huebner
Dr. Mallory Cramer
Dr. Bryan Procopio
Dr. Alyssa Shema
9314-A Old Keene Mill Rd
www.virginiaeyecare.com

 **Jefferson Funeral Chapel**
www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com • Email: info@jeffersonfuneralchapel.com
Family Owned
5755 Castlewellan Drive, Alexandria, VA 22315
Just off S. VanDorn St (Kingstowne)
703-971-7400

FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY
DR. SUSANA RAYGADA, DMD, Harvard University
DR. KATRINA HERNANDEZ-LEVERIZA, DMD, Univ. of Pennsylvania
Rated Top Dentist by Virginia Living Mag. and Checkbook
5211 Lyngate Ct, Burke, VA • 703-323-1400 • dentistburkeva.com

Dr. John Han
(Parishioner)
pediatric dental care
www.mypdcdentists.com
Fairfax Office: **703.383.3434**
9901 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax, VA 22030
Springfield Office: **703.992.7100**
6120 Brandon Ave. Suite 114, Springfield, VA 22150

Kitchens • Baths • Basements
Mike Jones • 703.451.0800
www.alwhome.com
ALW
HOME IMPROVEMENTS
Class A Contractor with
Over 30 Years Experience

Cardinal PLAZA SHELL
Expert Maintenance & Repairs
703-451-6232
www.CardinalPlazaShell.com

ST JOSEPH'S ROOFING
Roofing | Siding | Gutters | Windows/Doors
Insurance Claims | Storm Damage | Repairs
(703) 716-ROOF (7663) | www.sjroof.com

State Farm
Providing Insurance and Financial Services
Auto • Life • Home • Health • Business Insurance • Bank
6560 Backlick Road • Suite #207 • Springfield, VA 22150
Agent
Arceli Magpayo Brown
703-269-0673
arcel@arcelbrown.com • www.arcelbrown.com
Parishioner Over 10 Years & Over 30 Years Experience
Se Habla Español
Licensed in VA - DC - MD



Certified Public Accountants
DONOVAN & WAGNER, P.C.
Accounting Services & Business Advisory
Income Taxes | Eldercare Bookkeeping
www.DaW.cpa
Burke Professional Center • 5210-B Lyngate Court
703-426-5560

BODY Design
Pilates, Barre and Fitness Studio
ALISSA HARAKAL
Owner
484-894-5143
www.bodydesignbyalissa.com



DIOCESAN • To Advertise 800-233-8200 or Diocesan.com/Business
VISA
MasterCard
Discover
3134