Blessed *is the fruit* of your womb

LUKE 1:42



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 Dovle, 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 mmtumer@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



"Blessed is the fruit of your womb" - Luke 1:42

My dear parishioners,

Mary is our great Advent inspiration. When called by God to be the Mother of our Savior, Mary trusts and in faith responds "Yes." Mary becomes the first "Christ bearer" but not the last. We are called to welcome Christ into our hearts and make room for Him.

Mary went out in haste to help her elderly cousin Elizabeth who was also with child. Mary with her new concerns and anxieties, goes out to the other. God brings us outside of ourselves to give loving service to others.

I wish each of you and your families a blessed and joy filled Christmas. May Christ be born anew in your hearts and homes. Know that you are loved.

Love and blessings,

Brh Cilinski Msgr. Bob Cilinski Pastor



Consecration to the Holy Family Event 28-29 December 2024

December 29th is the Feast of the Holy Family, and our Council will assist our Pastor, Msgr. Bob, in conducting a Consecration to the Holy Family for our parish Families at the end of all Masses on December 28th and 29th. It is our hope that this process may help strengthen our families and to devote ourselves to the ideal model of familial love set by Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

To help families live out the joy of Christ, Knights of Columbus Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori has composed a prayer through which families will come together to consecrate themselves under the protection of the Holy Family. In this prayer, we ask for the aid or intercession of the perfect son Jesus Christ, Mary the perfect mother, and Joseph who is a model for every father.

The idea is that preparing for the Consecration to the Holy Family is not a single event. It is choosing a way of life for your family. Through this consecration, each participant is consciously choosing to be a beacon of God's love through His Church.

Go to the Nativity Website to learn more about this activity and how to prepare for it: https://nativityburke.org/category/ upcoming-events/. You can also learn all about this K of C program here: www.kofc.org/consecration.

The Nativity Knights of Columbus will include a bulletin entry that describes the activity and recommended preparation steps for families. Information is also on the Parish Website under Activities and Events.

On Saturday December 28th and Sunday December 29th, the Knights will distribute Consecration Prayer Cards to parishioners as they arrive at Mass, and the celebrant will lead the congregation in the Consecration Prayer at the end of Mass.

Advent Wreath Prayers



If you have set 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 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.



Christmas 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christmas celebrates the reason for our hope, as Sacred Scripture proclaims: "For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord." (Luke 2:11) The coming of the Lord offers us a sure hope no matter our challenges or circumstances. Our hope for true peace in the world, for unity rather than division, and for a better future for ourselves and our loved ones-we draw all these hopes from Christ and our union with him.

This Christmas, Pope Francis will inaugurate the opening of the Holy Year of 2025, a Jubilee Year in our Church, with the theme "*pilgrims of hope*" and strengthening us with the words of Saint Paul: "Hope does not disappoint" (Romans 5:5). As one family of faith, may our lives this Christmas and throughout the Holy Year be marked by the hope that does not fade, so that by God's grace, we may faithfully and lovingly journey with one another toward eternal happiness with our Father in Heaven.

May our Lord Jesus bless you and fill you with his peace at Christmas and always, and may the hope he inspires be shared with all those you encounter in the new year to come.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ Michael 7 Burlidge



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge Bishop of Arlington

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY Deacon Richard Kelly December 27th



Do you receive a Christmas gift that you will never use? I would love to take it off your hands! I am collecting new items to use as prizes for Nativity's senior bingo on January 30th. Donations can be dropped off at the school office beginning January 6, 2024. For more information contact Mrs. McGuire at 703-455-2300 ext. 145.

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!)*





IN MARY'S FOOTSTEPS A Group for Widows

We are a group of women who share the experience of the loss of our beloved husbands and join together in faith and fellowship. We have gathered for lunches or dinners out, retreats at the Benedictine Monastery, museum tours, etc. Due to the Veterans' Day holiday, our next meeting will take place on Monday, January 13th at 11:00 in the Father Ready room. For further information, please contact Cat Sands at csands@nativityburke.org. May God bless you!

Knights of Columbus Council 7992 Basketball Free Throw Challenge

This fun event will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2025, from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM in the Father Martin Center and is open to all boys and girls ages 9 - 14. Each contestant will be scored on 15 free throws taken from an age-designated foul line. Boy and girl winners for each age group will be determined by highest score. In case of a tie, five additional tie-breaker free throws will be used to determine the winners. Participants can arrive any time between 6-9 PM and do not have to remain for the entire event. Winners will be notified by email. Participation time for each contestant is approximately 15 mins. No early registration or notification is required. Contestants register at the event before participating.

This is a community event so all are welcome regardless of parish affiliation. Bring friends and compete with each other! Group winners will be eligible to compete at the Knights of Columbus District Challenge in February at Holy Spirit in Annandale. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Batrla at jbat747@gmail.com.



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!

ccda.net/Christmas or scan the QR code





Marriage Enrichment Ministry

Communications in Marriage

ART OF BEING PRESENT



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



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



A message from Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Mary inspires us to listen to God's call. We do this in prayer. We also do this by being attentive to what is happening in our lives - as individuals, as communities, as a society, as a civilization. If we are attentive, with God's grace we can begin to discern God's call in our lives and our world. Pope Francis provides an excellent example of this, summoning us to care for God's creation. We need to open our eyes and ears to what is happening to our mother the Earth and the possibilities to heal her that are still available.

Thus there is another house that we need to concern ourselves with. It is our common home, the Earth. And as it turns out "eco" in the word "ecology" comes from the Greek word for 'house' or 'household.' Pope Francis wrote his encyclical Laudato si' because he discerned God's call to the household of the faith to accept his urgent challenge to protect our common home. No home created by us, however lavish and comfortable can substitute for the beautiful home created by God. This is a living house that we are called to cherish. Wishing all a blessed Christmas from your Nativity Creation Care Ministry! nativitycreationcare@gmail.com

STARFISH FOR HAITI

We will once again be offering crocheted ornaments made by the lepers of Cardinal Leger Hospital in Haiti after Masses this weekend.

Please stop by the Christmas tree in the Nartex. The ornaments are free but any donations are much appreciated. Thank you!





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

<u>Monday, December 23rd</u> 7:30 am † Victoria L. Hernandez

Tuesday, December 24th

4:00 pm	† MaryAnn Pilot
6:00 pm	† Nene Roa
8:30 pm	† Jean Sweet
12:00 am	† Mary Louise Patnaude (Midnight Mass)

Wednesday, December 25th

7:00 am	† Richard J Ferraro
9:00 am	† Sally Mernah
11:00 am	† Fernando Molleda
1:00 pm	† Tricia Cloos (Spanish)

Thursday, December 26th

7:30 am	† Vita M. Santulli
12:00 pm	† John Richard Adams

Friday, December 27th 7:30 am † Diosdado & Felicisima Buendia

Saturday, December 28th

9:00 am	Parishioners
5:00 pm	† Angela Machado
7:00 pm	† Luis & Margarita Moreno

Sunday, December 29th

7:00 am	† Norman Wash
9:00 am	† Ramon and Angela Vega
11:00 am	† Nimette Yousif
1:00 pm	† Marshal Levitan
5:30 pm	Special Intention for Derek Admana
	•

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.

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.

We thank the following who have helped decorate our Christmas Sanctuary with their flower donations

IN LOVING MEMORY and IN HONOR OF

DONATED BY

Alexander J. Rohan, Margaret C. Rohan. Alice Cavanaugh, Vincent E. Occhipinti and Maragaret Occhipinti Karen A. Snee Marie and Frank Denny Stanley and Sally Kosiek Deceased Members of the Albrecht, Laskowski and Zagalak Families **Our Parents** Deceased Members of the Werner and Wine Families Philip, Kathleen and Bob McHugh Connell, DiPalma and Martin Families Our Parents and Grandparents Bob Hansen Karl and Sheila Posch, Lloyd and Evelyn M. Reinhard, Brian O'Neill, Janice Jaekle Melinda Roberts All our Deceased Family Members Constance Kee Jeanne and LeRoy McConoghay James S. McMahon III Joan and John Kowalski Philip Hartzog Clarice and Roger Duthiers Franck and Fifie Bayard Earl and Mary Hartzog Deceased Members of the Weeks and Vega Families Nimette Yousif David J. Lynch Lois Bond & T. Edward Bond, Carolyn Makurat Michael Ponti Deceased Members of the Ogden and Spaziani Families The Kolodziej, Trzok, Borrelli & Cantu Families Our Deceased Family Members and Loved Ones Michael F. Morrone Departed Members of the Gerencsek and Lewis Families The Holzwarth and Henry Families Dorothy Mae Pritz Samuel & Catherine Cuomo, Marcella & William Holtmann Sally Mernah The Tokerak, Spachtholz and Fleming Families Emma Therese Jordon Our Beloved Son, Jairo Gustavo Vargas In Thanksgiving for all of the Lord's Blessings, especially Family The McKnight and Goffredi Families Jerry Murdock and Deceased Members of the Caffi, Merriman, Murdock, and Pesce Families Daniel F. Hunter

Vince and Carol Ann Occhipinti

The Snee Family Carol Denny Gail Brooks Barbara, Stan and Debbie Zagalak Tim and Donna Kilbourn The Werner Family Kathy McHugh Pat Connell The Harvey Family Sue Hansen The Reinhard Family

> Maria Ponti Mr. and Mrs. McGillvray Jr.

The Mukai Family Mr. and Mrs. Bill Canavan Harold Kowalski Carole and Sabrina Hartzog The Hartzog and Bayard Families The Hartzog and Bayard Families The Hartzog Family Zulma Weeks Sabah Yousif Joanne Lynch Edward and Susan Bond Family Maria Ponti Fred and Christine Spaziani Mary Louise Kolodziej Richard and Karen Golinowski Camille Morrone and Family Tom & Jean Lewis and Family Patrick and Nancy Henry

MaryAnn and David Holtmann The John Mernah Family The Spachtholz Family Elena and Steve Jordon Families Jairo and Isabel Vargas Chuck and Carole Domasinsky The McKnight Family Kitty Murdock

The Hunter Family



LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12

DINNER - FELLOWSHIP - PRAYER & FORMATION

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





EDGE: GRADES 6-8

Twice a month: Sunday 3:30-5:00 p.m. & Friday 7:00-8:30 p.m.

See website for full schedule

EPIPHANY PARTY: JANUARY 5

Join us for our first Youth Ministry gathering of the new year as we celebrate our annual Epiphany Party! Bring a wrapped gift under \$15 if you want to participate in the White Elephant gift exchange.

Edge: 3:30-5:00 p.m. & Life Teen: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

LIFE FEST: JANUARY 23, 2025

Details coming soon! Will be open to grades 8-12

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

Employment Opportunities in the Diocese

Find the perfect Opportunity at: https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/human-resources/ employment-opportunities/

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.



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.ccda.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://marysshelterya.org/. 540.374.3407



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.ccda.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.

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.

6



OPERATION STARFISH HONDURAS MISSION TRIP

JULY 7-11. 2025

If you're college-age or in your 20s or 30s, contact Alison Fram to express your interest in coming with us!

Our mission is to visit Honduras and see our newest partnership with Operation Starfish.



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.



SENIOR BINGO

IN HONOR OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK, NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL IS HOSTING A SENIOR BINGO.

ALL SENIOR CITIZENS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 30TH IN THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA. 10:00 AM STARTS MINGLE TIME WITH BINGO TIME TO FOLLOW FROM 10:30 TO 11:30 AM.

LITE SNACKS AND DRINKS WILL BE SERVED. PLEASE RSVP TO MRS. CHAPMAN AT 703-455-2300.





Ana Lisa Marriage Enrichment Ministry Coordinator marriage@nativityburke.org

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



Dashing Down the Road, In Santa's Motorcade ...



Santa and his team rolled into Nativity Lane as part of a large motorcade to say hello and personally thank all of the students and staff for gathering a massive amount of kids' games, books, diapers, and more, for the ChildLife Department at INOVA Fairfax.

It was a cool day outside, and a little cloudy, but the rain held off as several motorcycles led the way up the lane and around the circle – the circle lined with excited children, who were happily jumping up and down, eagerly anticipating a visit from St. Nick.



We all watched as Santa, waving, pulled up on his motorcycle, dismounted, and greeted all of the 8th graders. Giving out candy canes, Santa next moved on to all the other students. His team -Mrs. Claus, Olaf, Rudolph, and a couple of Elves (only two elves could get away; everyone is SO busy at the North Pole just now!) - moved through the groups of students and teachers, laughing, talking, high-fiving, giving out candy canes, and all the while a very green Grinch very secretly, stealthily, sneaked up on Santa causing a bit of trouble, or a bit of fun - well, maybe a bit of both!

A Very Special Thank You to Mr. Burrow, who helped make this event possible!



Important Upcoming Dates ~~

Monday, Jan 6 – School Resumes Monday, Jan 20 – No School/MLK Day Sunday, Jan 26 – Catholic Schools Week Begins Monday, Jan 27 – Spelling Bee, 2:15 PM Thursday, Jan 30 - Military/Emer Personnel Event Friday, Jan 31– Free Lunch for All Students



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

Consecration to the Holy Family: On Saturday, December 28 and Sunday, December 29, the Knights will distribute Consecration Prayer cards to parishioners as they arrive at Mass and the celebrant will lead the congregation in prayer at the end of Mass. See SUG on LinkTree.

Free Throw Challenge: The annual Free Throw Challenge will be held on Saturday, January 11 from 6-9 PM in the Fr. Martin Center. Volunteers are needed, most especially during the first half of the event. See SUG on Linktree.

Food for Others: Volunteer for food distribution to the poor, delivered on designated Thursday or Friday evenings. For Thursdays, contact Br. Mark Sawyer at sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net. Fridays, contact Br. Matt

sawyerkoc/992@veri2on.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! 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. Next assembly meeting is January 14. A GREAT OPPORTUNITY – The next exemplification will be a special event for the 4th Degree 125th anniversary - February 22, 2025 at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. Several Sir Knights from our assembly will attend and transportation is available. 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.

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

December 22, 2024

"TOGETHER, WE CAN LIGHT THE WAY: ELP SISTER DONATELLA AND SISTER MARY ATTILI **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 webiste or by check payable to "Handmaids of Reparation." Thank you for your generosity and prayers. Together, we can make a difference this Advent season!



handmaidsofreparation.org







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



Fairfax, VA Retreat with Manualée JANUARY 18, 2025 ST. LEO THE GREAT

3700 Blenheim Blvd. Fairfax, VA 22030

Saturday - January 18, 2025



7:00-7:45 a.m. - Doors Open Registration
7:45 a.m. Mass followed by a short break
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Retreat Begins / Session 1
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Break/Book Signing
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.. - Session 2 - 7 Sorrows Rosary/Prayer
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Lunch/Book Signing
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Session 3 - (Bring Flower for Our Lady)
3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Break/Book Signing
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Session 4
4:30 p.m. - Retreat Ends

REGISTER NOW

Info: Angelle angelle@immaculee.com Jeanne 571-213-0318





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

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Navidad 2024



Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

La Navidad celebra la razón de nuestra esperanza, como proclama la Sagrada Escritura: "Porque hoy, en la ciudad de David, os ha nacido un salvador, que es el Mesías y el Señor". (Lc 2, 11) La venida del Señor nos ofrece una esperanza segura, sean cuales sean nuestros retos o circunstancias. Nuestra esperanza de una paz verdadera en el mundo, de unidad en lugar de división, y de un futuro mejor para nosotros mismos y para nuestros seres queridos: todas estas esperanzas las extraemos de Cristo y de nuestra unión con Él.

Esta Navidad, el Papa Francisco inaugurará la apertura del Año Santo 2025, Año Jubilar en nuestra Iglesia, con el tema "peregrinos de la esperanza" y fortaleciéndonos con las palabras de San Pablo: "La esperanza no defrauda". (Romanos 5:5) Como una sola familia de fe, que nuestras vidas en esta Navidad y durante todo el Año Santo estén marcadas por la esperanza que no se desvanece, para que, por la gracia de Dios, podamos caminar fiel y amorosamente unos con otros hacia la felicidad eterna con nuestro Padre del Cielo.

Que nuestro Señor Jesús los bendiga y los llene de su paz en Navidad y siempre, y la esperanza que Él inspira sea compartida con todos aquellos con quienes se encuentren en el nuevo año que comienza.

Sinceramente en Cristo, + Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Arlington IV Domingo de Adviento, Cicio C. Ha mirado la humildad de su sierva Autor: P. Raniero Cantalamessa, ofmcap Sitio Web: P. Raniero Cantalamessa, ofmcap Miqueas 5, 2-5; Hebreos 10, 5-10; Lucas 1, 39-48a

El ultimo domingo de Adviento es el que debe preparar inmediatamente a la Navidad. Las compras ya deberian estar hechas, y tal vez estamos un poco mas disponibles para pensar tambien en el sentido religioso de la fiesta. El Evan- gelic es el de la Visitacion de Maria a Isabel, que finaliza con el Magnificat: <<Proclama mi alma la grandeza del Senor y se alegra mi espfritu en Dios, mi Salvador, porque ha mirado la humildad de su sierva»

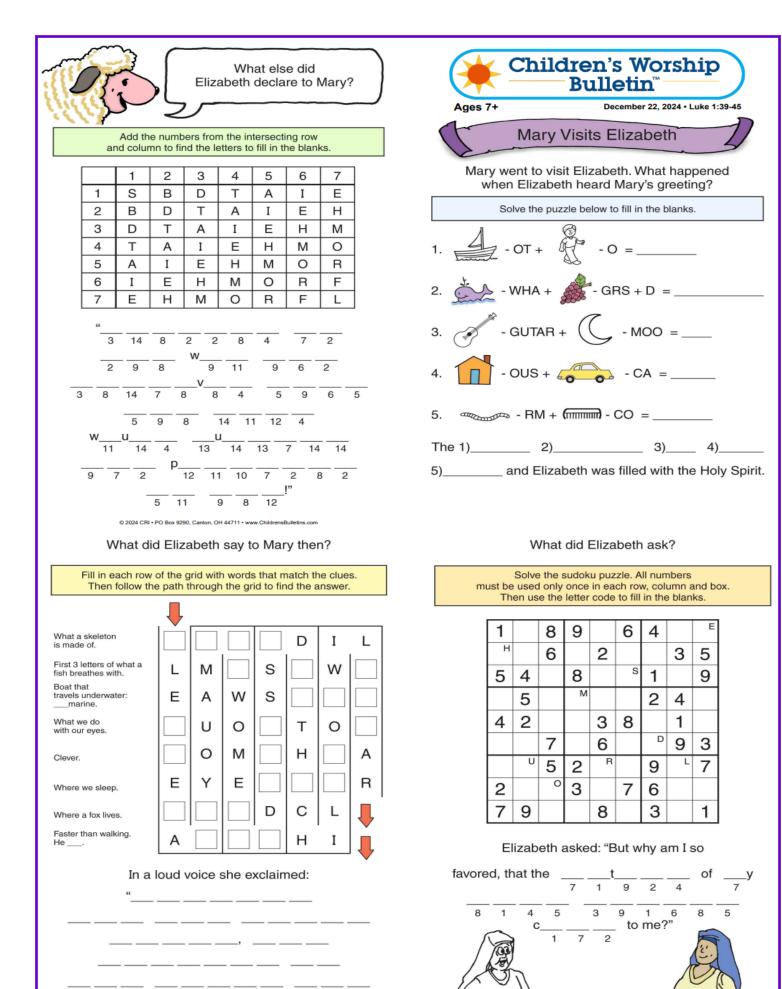
Con el Magnificat Maria nos ayuda a captar un aspecto importante del misterio navideno sobre el que desearia insistir: la Navidad como fiesta de los humildes y como rescate de los pobres. Dice: «Ha derribado del trono a los poderosos y ha enaltecido a los humildes; a los hambrientos los colma de bienes y a los ricos los despide vacios». En el mundo de hoy se van perfilando dos nuevas clases sociales, que ya no son las mismas que se consideraban en el pasado, esto es, propietarios y proletarios. Son mas bien, por un lado, la sociedad cosmopolita que sabe ingles, que se mueve a sus anchas por los aeropuertos del mundo, que sabe utilizar el ordenador y «navega» por Internet; para la cual la tierra es ya «la aldea global»; por otro, la gran masa de aquellos que apenas han salido de su pueblo natal y tienen un acceso limitado o solo indirecto a los grandes medios de comunicacion social. Hoy son estos, respectivamente, los nuevos <<p>estores y los nuevos «humildes».

Maria nos ayuda a volver a poner las cosas en su sitio y a no dejarnos engafiar. Nos dice que frecuentemente los valores mas profundos se esconden entre los humildes; que los acontecimientos que mas inciden en la historia (como el nacimiento de Jesus) suceden en medio de ellos, no sobre los grandes escenarios del mundo. Belen era «la aldea mas pequeiia de Juda», dice la primera lectura del dia; sin embargo, fue en ella en la que nacio el Mesias. Grandes escri- tores, como Manzoni y Dostoiewski, han inmortalizado en sus obras los valores y las historias de la «gente pobre».

La «opcion preferencial» de los pobres es algo que hizo Dios mucho antes del Concilio Vaticano II. La Escritura dice que «el Senor es excelso, pero se fija en el humilde» (Sal 138, 6); que «resiste a los soberbios, pero concede su favor a los humildes» (1 P 5, 5). A lo largo de toda la revelacion se nos muestra como un Dios que se inclina sobre los pobres, los afligidos, los abandonados y aquellos que no son nada a los ojos del mundo. Todo esto contiene una leccion actu- alisima.Nuestra tentacion, en efecto, es la de hacer exactamente lo contrario de lo que hizo Dios: querer mirar a quien esta arriba, no a quien esta abajo; a quien le va bien, no a quien se encuentra en necesidad.

No podemos contentarnos con recordar que Dios orienta su mirada hacia los humildes. Debemos hacernos nosotros mismos pequeiios, humildes, al menos de corazon. La Basilica de la Natividad en Belen solo tiene una puerta de en- trada, y es tan baja que no se puede pasar por ella mas que inclinandose profundamente .Hay quien dice que fue con- struida asi para impedir que los beduinos entraran a grupa de sus camellos.Pero la explicacion que siempre se ha dado (y que contiene, en cualquier caso, una profunda verdad espiritual) es otra. Esa puerta debia recordar a los peregrines que para penetrar en el significado profundo de la Navidad hay que abajarse y hacerse pequeiios.

En los proximos dias oiremos cantar muchas veces la antigua melodia Tu scendi dalle stelle, o re del cielo... [popular italiano compuesto por san Alfonso Maria de Ligorio: «Desciendes de las estrellas, oh rey del cielo». Ndt.]. Y si Dios descendio «de las estrellas», l,nO deberiamos nosotros bajar de nuestros pequenos pedestales de superioridad y de dominio, para vivir como hermanos reconciliados entre nosotros? Tambien tenemos que bajar de nuestros «camellos» para entrar en la gruta de Belen...



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