

A vibrant blue night sky filled with stars and nebulae. A bright starburst with four prominent rays of light is centered in the upper half of the image. The text "A SAVIOR IS BORN!" is written in a white, serif font, centered in the lower half of the image. A small blue square is visible in the top-left corner.

A SAVIOR
IS BORN!



6400 Nativity Lane,
Burke, Virginia 22015
nativityburke.org

REV. ROBERT C. CILINSKI, PASTOR
REV. CHRISTOPHER H. HAYES, PAROCHIAL VICAR
REV. EDWARD BRESNAHAN, PAROCHIAL VICAR
REV. CEDRIC P. WILSON, ASSISTING PRIEST/
SPANISH MINISTRY
DEACON 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
Allison Fram, Director of Young Adult/College Ministry
Rebecca Judge, Director of Youth Ministry
Mary Castellano, Director of Social Media
Jennifer Sturgeon, Director of Marriage Enrichment/
Ecumenical Ministry
Carole Fischl, Co-director of Music
Debbie Doyle, Co-director of Music
Mai Tran, Traditional Choir Director
Sara Prince, Youth Choir Director/Cornerstone Choir
Natacha Hines, Gift Shop

MINISTERS OF OUR SCHOOL:

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

**MINISTERS OF OUR RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION PROGRAM:**

Sister Donatella Merulla, A.R., M.R.E.
Sister Mary Attilia Todaro, A.R., M.R.E.
Fania Jimenez, Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Sturgeon, Confirmation Coordinator

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454 2415



PARISH OFFICE: (703) 455-2400

PARISH FAX: (703) 455-6832

NATIVITY SCHOOL: (703) 455-2300

NATIVITY FAX: (703) 569-8109

PRE-SCHOOL: (703) 455-2300 ext. 136

CCD OFFICE: (703) 455-0372

CCD OFFICE FAX: (703) 455-6832

SUNDAY MASSES:

5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass in Spanish
7:00 a.m./9:00 a.m./11:00 a.m./
1:00p.m./5:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

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

HOLY DAY MASSES:

As Announced

RECONCILIATION:

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

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

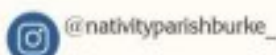
MARRIAGE POLICY: Please contact the Church as soon as
you are engaged, and at least six months prior to your
wedding date.

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

WEBMASTER: Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

SOCIAL MEDIA: Mary Castellano,
socialmedia@nativityburke.org

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





DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Office of the Bishop

200 North Glebe Road, Suite 914 • Arlington, Virginia 22203 • Office (703) 841-2511 • Fax (703) 524-5028

Christmas 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today we rejoice in the birth of Our Savior! His arrival, foretold by prophets throughout the centuries, brings to the world a great mystery of our faith: this tiny baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a humble manger - born of a virgin - was both human and divine. He is both our Creator and our Savior; both the Eternal Word, who existed before the beginning, and a man, who dwells among us.

In response to this mystery, our Blessed Mother proclaims, "*My soul rejoices in the Lord!*" These words are also the theme for this second preparatory year toward our diocesan Golden Jubilee celebration in 2024. We rejoice with her, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the incarnate Savior.

Jesus' birth was marked by a star shining in the sky. The light that Christ brought into the world on this day has shone brightly for two millennia. It has revealed God's glory as it has guided Christians to love one another, protect the vulnerable, care for the poor, serve those in need, educate children, heal the sick, welcome the newcomer, work for justice and live in peace with our neighbors.

As we celebrate the true Light coming into the world, may we strive daily to walk in that light always! May we also renew our promise to bring others into the light by sharing the love that God has for us, his beloved sons and daughters.

Please be assured of my prayers for you! May *your* soul rejoice in the Lord and may his peace and abundant blessings be yours this Christmas and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael F. Burbidge". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington

A Message from our Pastor Fr. Bob Cilinski



Dear parishioners,

On January 2, 2023 we will begin the sanctuary renovation of our church as part of our parish 50th Anniversary celebration. A large curtain will be suspended to cover the sanctuary area during the renovation. A temporary altar and tabernacle will be placed in front of the curtain for our prayer and worship. Daily and Sunday Mass will continue to be celebrated in the church. The renovation is scheduled to be completed by March 11, 2023.

WHAT ARE WE RENOVATING ?

THE SANCTUARY FLOOR: The current sanctuary floor is chipped and stained and cannot be restored. There is also an electrical outlet coming out of the steps with red tape as a caution to all. The new sanctuary floor will be a cream color marble floor with border inlets that will enhance the beauty and safety of the altar area.

THE ALTAR: The altar, on which is effected the Sacrifice of the Cross made present under sacramental signs, is also the table of the Lord to which the People of God gather to participate in the Mass, and it also is the center of the thanksgiving that is accomplished through the Eucharist. In every church there should be a fixed altar. The current altar of wood and stone does not line up with the center aisle and has electrical outlets coming out of it in the back. Since we are now going to have a marble floor, the new altar will be built with a dignified cherry stain wood and marble inlets to coordinate with the new marble floor. It will contain relics of various saints.

THE AMBO: The current ambo (pulpit) will be replaced by a cherry wood stain and marble ambo. The design of the new ambo will match the altar as a way of expressing the unity of the Word of God in the Scripture and the Word of God in the Eucharist. There is also a practical motivation for the design of the new pulpit. The current ambo provides little room for the lectionary and homily notes. We also must carry a step stool to the ambo when our children are reading. The renovated ambo will have a shelf for liturgical books and a step installed that can be pulled out when needed by a lector.

THE TABERNACLE: A principal feature of the renovation is the moving of the tabernacle to the center of the sanctuary underneath the Crucifix. This design placement calls attention to the centrality of the Eucharist in our faith. As Pope John Paul II said, *"We are the Church of the Eucharist."* Visually when you walk into the church, your eyes will be drawn to the Altar, Tabernacle and Crucifix in unity on the same axis in the center. These liturgical sacred items will be architecturally what they are spiritually, the axis of our lives.

PRESIDERS CHAIR: Another liturgical change after the Second Vatican Council was the use of the Presiders Chair for the principal prayers of the Mass. As such, we have designed a chair that fits the overall design of the sanctuary. It will be placed on the side wall where the current tabernacle is located. New chairs for the deacon and altar servers are being made. The current chairs are over 30 years old, have served us well, but are in need of an upgrade.

MOSAIC PANELS: We are adding seven mosaic panels on the right side of the church behind the choir section to echo the seven stained glass windows on the left. These mosaic panels will depict the Seven Corporal Works of Mercy, beautifully displaying Christ's command to care for those in need, a charism of Nativity parish. This will highlight the scripture from Matthew 25 when Jesus describes how we will be judged. It will be a teaching reminder to any who say: *"If its not on the final exam, I don't want to study it."* Pope Francis has called us *"to be a church for the poor."* These seven mosaics will also provide a balance visually in the church.... and in our lives.

The cost of this renovation is \$640,000. To date, through the generosity of parishioners, we have raised over half that amount. More are considering a pledge or using our monthly building envelope. If you would like to help contribute, please go to our parish website or call the parish office.

The New Year in which we are to embark, with all its possibilities, will be a special one for our parish as we celebrate our 50th anniversary. May the Christmas season remind us that the greatest gift we can take with us into this New Year, is Jesus Christ whose birth we celebrate and who promises to always be with us. Rejoice in Emmanuel!

Christmas Blessings,

Fr. Bob Cilinski

Fr. Bob Cilinski, Pastor

HOME 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.



**Handmaids of Reparation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Advent Project**

Help our Sisters reach their fundraising goal!

The very special Advent season draws near. It's time to begin preparing for the coming of our Lord whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. Families both individual and parish, participate in traditional activities during this Church season. It's also a time to remember our sisters and brothers throughout the world who need physical and spiritual comfort.

Every year our Religious Order, Handmaids of Reparation of the Sacred Heart reaches out to families in our RE program and parish for prayers and monetary support during the Advent season.

To learn more about our Missions, and our Annual Advent Project, and to donate, please visit our website. or scan the QR-Code. Thank you kindly for your prayers and continuous support.

Prayerfully,

Sister Donatella Merulla and
Sister Mary Attilia Todaro



To learn more and to donate please visit their site: handmaidsofreparation.org



New Year's Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 31

9:00am, 5:00pm, 7:00pm (Spanish)

Sunday, January 1

7:00am, 9:00am, 11:00am, 1:00pm (bilingual),

There will be NO 5:30pm Mass

Wishing you all a very Happy and Blessed New Year!

Stella Marina - December Birthing Kit Build

Please volunteer to help Stella Marina make 1,500 birthing kits as a gift to Jesus!

When: Wednesday, December 28 | 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Where: Nativity School Cafeteria



Please use the signup here so that organizers know who and how many are coming. This activity is a great one for families to do together to celebrate the birth of Jesus and to help others in need.

If you have any questions, please email Meg Hanrahan at meg@stellamarina.org or Melinda Engelbretksson at melinda@stellamarina.org.

To sign up, visit: <https://signup.com/go/YLmMyWT> or <https://nativityburke.org/birthing-kit-build/> for more info.



Engaged and Married Couples are invited to be a part of the Marriage Enrichment Ministry (MEM)

You are invited to the upcoming events and programs

- January - Small groups meet at homes for the Better Together program
- January 27 - Book Fellowship with Fr. Hayes "Spousal Prayer"
- January 28 - Virtual Date Night with Greg and Stephanie Schutte on "Day-to-Day Marriage with the End in Mind"
- February 5 - St. John Paul II Shrine Pilgrimage (all day)
- February 18 - Date Night with Messy Family Project "Growing a Family Culture"
- March 25 - Date Night "Marriage & Intimacy"
- April 22 - Mini Retreat (10:00 AM-Noon)
- April to May - six week Marriage Program
- May 20 - Date Night "Comedy & BBQ" combined with the Knights of Columbus

Plus fellowship events: meeting for ice cream with our families, Paradise Springs, hikes, Pizza Friday, Coffee Connections, sharing resources, NFP support, and more. Email Jennifer Sturgeon at marriage@nativityburke.org to be added to our monthly FlockNote, where all our upcoming events are shared.



Christmas Mass Schedule 2022

Saturday, December 24 | Christmas Eve

- 4:00 pm
- 6:00 pm*
- 8:30 pm
- Midnight*

Sunday, December 25 | Christmas Day

- 7:00 am
- 9:00 am
- 11:00 am*
- 1:00 pm (Spanish)*

*Live Streamed on YouTube

WORKCAMP 2023
Registration Open!

JUNE 17-23
FREDERICK COUNTY, VA

Teens, parents and adult volunteers are invited to a week-long overnight camp providing the high school teens with an opportunity to encounter Christ through service, faith, and fellowship.

Scan the QR Code to learn more!

Questions?
 Contact Brigid Williams | wc@nativityburke.org





Year End Office Schedule

Sunday, December 25 - Office closed all day
 Monday, December 26 - Office closed all day
 Tuesday, December 27 - Office open 8:00-5:00
 Wednesday, December 28 - Office open 8:00-5:00
 Thursday, December 29 - Office closed all day
 Friday, December 30 - Office closed all day
 Saturday, December 31 - Office open 9:00-7:00
 Sunday, January 1 - Office closed all day
 Monday, January 2 - Office closed all day

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Book for 2023 is now open with many dates available. 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/>.

On This Date in Nativity History
11 December 2010


On this date, Nativity celebrated the first Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of Latin America and especially of Mexico. This feast is always a highlight of the liturgical year for our Spanish-speaking community. The Feast Day is 12 December, and since 2010 has been celebrated at Nativity with a flower-adorned statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe prepared each year for the Mass by volunteers from the Hispanic community, as well as with mariachi music, dancers, and a grand reception following Mass. As these photos from the celebrations in 2015 (by Don Lemieux) and 2018 (by Mary Castellano) attest, it is always a joyous moment for our Hispanic community.



This historical note is the twenty ninth of a weekly Bulletin feature leading up to Nativity's fiftieth anniversary, 11 June 2023.

For those attending Christmas Midnight Mass, the Nativity Traditional Choir invites you to join them for an hour of Christmas Caroling in the church on Saturday 12/24/2022 at 11:00pm, right before the Solemn Christmas Eve Midnight Mass. Come sing along with us your timeless Christmas carols and enjoy other beautiful Christmas music sung in various styles, accompanied by a chamber orchestra. We hope to see you all there!

Merry Christmas from The Nativity Creation Care Ministry!



Thanks to all who volunteered for and shopped at our Thanksgiving Fair Trade Sale! We hope that your gifts were well received and appreciated for the difference they make to the artisans around the world. Fair Trade embodies the principles of Catholic Social Teaching including Care for God's Creation, the Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers; your purchases help to make communities sustainable. In addition, Fair Trade Winds makes a generous thank-you donation to our ministry to support our projects throughout the year.

Respect for life and for the dignity of the human person extends also to the rest of creation, which is called to join man in praising God. Pope John Paul II, "Peace with God the Creator, Peace with All of Creation." Creation Care Ministry wishes you peace this Christmas season and thanks you for all your support this year!

For more information: nativitycreationcare@gmail.com.

Save the Dates for two Significant Pro-Life Events in Early 2023!

National March for Life in Washington DC – Friday, January 20, 2023

Join us as we march to Capitol Hill! Please let us know if you tentatively plan to attend so travel arrangements can be made! Simply sign up using Sign-Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4eacac29a2f58-2023>

Depart Nativity ~ 11:00am

Rally at Noon, and March to the Capitol at 1:00pm

Return to Nativity around 3:30pm

“We will celebrate the 50th annual March for Life and the momentous overturn of Roe v. Wade! We will honor those who have gone before us making this historic victory possible. We will present the strategic plan for building a culture of life ...

This year, rather than marching to the steps of the Supreme Court, where we have for decades asked our highest Court’s Justices to undo the destructive decision that was Roe v. Wade, we will now march to a new front in our battle for life, the steps of the United States Capitol.”

Jeanne Mancini, President of the March for Life

Guest speakers/performers for the Rally include:

- Jonathan Roumie, best known for his award-winning role as ‘Jesus’ in the series, THE CHOSEN
- Coach Tony Dungy, Pro-Football Hall of Famer and a New York Times best-selling author
- We Are Messengers, the Dove-nominated and K-LOVE Award-winning musical group

Virginia Defending Life Day & Virginia March for Life – Wednesday, Feb 1, 2023

Join Bishop Burbidge and us—your personal presence will powerfully support pro-life members of the Virginia General Assembly and encourages others to reconsider their views.

We want our legislators to see that we expect them to pass life-affirming legislation. Bishop Burbidge, as the new Chair of the USCCB Pro-Life Committee, is keenly aware of how important this state-level representation is. Although this may be a bit out of the norm for you, we believe you will enjoy the comradery and find it empowering to stand up for this noble cause!

What's the plan?

- 6:30am Depart Nativity
- 8:30am Gather at the Richmond Convention Center
- 10:00am Senate and Delegate Meetings
- 12:00pm March for Life Rally
- 1:00pm Virginia March for Life
- 2:00pm Depart Richmond
- 4:00pm Return to Nativity

Don't worry! Should you be interested in talking, tips for effective advocacy, talking points and legislative updates will be provided by the organizers to make your day fun, easy, and successful. Please let us know if you tentatively plan to attend so sufficient travel arrangements can be made!

Simply sign up using Sign-Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4EACAC29A2F58-20231>

More details to follow. Please contact Rick and Linda Loffredo at rickloffredo@outlook.com if you have any questions.



MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, December 26th

7:30 am † Carl John Stoeppler

Tuesday, December 27th

7:30 am Special Int. - Thanksgiving

12:00 pm † Marshall A Levitan

Wednesday, December 28th

7:30 am † Luis & Margarita Moreno

(HW) 10:00 am Special Int. for Vince Drouillard

Thursday, December 29th

7:30 am † Bill Basselgia

12:00 pm † Vincent Puritano

Friday, December 30th

7:30 am † Joe Dezzutti

Saturday, December 31st

9:00 am Hershilieda Roa, Tisa & Michael Keister

5:00 pm † Louise Clermont

7:00 pm † Geraldine Bartz

Sunday, January 1st

7:00 am † Paul Lemieux

9:00 am † Juanito & Brian Licud

11:00 am † Rosario Uy

1:00 pm † Mary Van & Trong Le

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

Make a year-end gift from your IRA to our parish!
Donate to the Parish through a Tax-Free IRA Gift! Generally, this provision allows individuals age 72 or older to make tax-free gifts from an IRA directly to the parish. To complete an IRA Charitable Rollover contact your IRA provider for instructions. Please note that these gifts could take a couple weeks to transact. For questions contact the parish office or visit <http://www.arlingtondiocese.planmylegacy.org>.

Family Christmas Movie Day

January 8, 2:00-4:00pm Hosted for you by Nativity's Knights of Columbus & Young Family Ministry

January is still the Christmas season in the Catholic Church. We will be showing a Christmas movie for families with young children. Whether you have babies, toddlers, or elementary school age kids (older siblings are of course included, too!), we would love to have you join us for a movie, hot cocoa bar and popcorn.

For those who want something more, we will have ample coloring pages, crayons, and toddler toys available as well.

When: Sunday, January 8 | 2:00-4:00 pm

Where: Nativity School Cafeteria

We hope you will join us after the Christmas and New Year break for a little extra Christmas magic!



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



IN LOVING MEMORY and IN HONOR OF

Nimette Yousif
Ernie Weeks, Angela Vega, all Deceased members of Vega and Weeks Families
Robert Hansen
Len Yankosky
Frank & Marie Denny
The Albrecht, Zagalak & Laskowski Families
Our loved ones
Robert Hansen
Jerry Murdock & deceased members of the Caffi, Murdock, Pesce & Merriman Families
Deceased Members of the O'Malley and Vautour Families
The Shane, Swisshelm and Celentana Families
Deceased Members of the Werner and Wine Families
Ronald J. Evans
Janet Hamrick
My beloved wife Henrietta
My mom, generous heart and loving spirit
Josephine Bean, Warren and Lottie McPeak, Patty Gose
The Gallo and Perez Families
The Betts and Frain Families

Philip, Kathleen and Bob McHugh
Richard J. Teitz
Richard J. Ferraro
Dominique and Patricia Bizier
Sharon Michel
Lu and John Rowley
Clarice and Roger Duthiers
Earl and Mary Hartzog
Philip Hartzog
Franck and Fifie Bayard
Prentice Connell and Karen Chesterman
Connell, Di Palma and Martin Families
Carolyn Makurat and Lois Bond
Jesse and Albina Roderick, Cliff and Arlene Orr
Barbara Russo, Anthony and Catherine Di Liete
Lloyd and Evelyn Reinhard, Karl and Sheila Posch, Janice Jaekle
Karen A. Snee
Mark Geissler, Ann and Joseph Rondeau, JoAnna Rondeau, Leo Breunig
The Yarros Family
Catherine and Sam Cuomo, Marcella and Wm Holtmann
The Kolodziej, Trzok, Borrelli & Cantu Families
The McKnight and Goffredi Families

DONATED BY

Sabah Yousif
Zulma Weeks
Susan Hansen
Mary Ann Yankosky & Team Yank
Carol Denny
Barbara & Stan Zagalak
Mark and Lise Harvey
Susan Hansen
Kitty Murdock
Tom and Louise O'Malley
Mike and Gerri Shane
The Werner Family
Sara Evans
Sara Evans
Frank forever my love
Your loving daughter Mandy
Jim and Debbie Bean
Carlos and Tricia Perez
Allan and Patricia Betts
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Karbowski
Kathy McHugh
The Nye Family
Patricia Ferraro
Nancy and Oscar Adams
John Michel and Bernadette Michel Slee
The Bonner Family
Carole Hartzog and Katia Bayard
Carole and Sabrina Hartzog
Carole and Sabrina Hartzog
Katia and Ghislaine Bayard
The Chesterman Family
Pat Connell
Susan and Ed Bond and Familie
Bob and Mary Orr
James A. Percoco
The Reinhard Family
Thomas J. Snee
Mary Ann and Jeff Breunig
The Brandt Family
The Holtmann Family
Mary Louise Kolodziej
The McKnight Family

*Christ
is Born!*



Rosary Ministry News

*Attention all rosary makers, past and present. Mark your
calendar for January 10th from 1:00-3:00 PM in the
Fr. Ready Room for a "Bead" Party.*

If you have extra beads or rosary supplies bring them to the meeting. Most of us have a container of various colored beads. By consolidating our beads, we can create interesting rosaries as well as providing supplies for future classes. Help us to bring those lonely beads back to life and to make more rosaries for the foreign missions. For more info, please email: rosaryministry@natvityburke.org.



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



~~ Nativity's Nativities ~~

All Nativity Stars LOVE to engage in hands-on projects. Finished just in time to celebrate the birth of Jesus, each of Mrs. Basselgia's Second Graders brought their own vision to the Nativity scene -- one of their very favorites!

Pictured here are just a few of their treasures. All of the Nativity scenes will be posted on our school Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/nativityschoolburke>.



Upcoming Dates At-A-Glance!

- Jan. 3: School Resumes!
- Jan. 6: High School Application Deadline
- Jan. 9: Third Grade Field Trip
- Jan. 13: 12 NOON Dismissal
- Jan. 13: Father/Father Figure Breakfast
- Jan. 16: Martin Luther King Day - No School
- Jan. 20: March for Life Day
- Jan. 20: Interims
- Jan. 21: PTO-Sponsored Talent Show
- Jan. 23: 100th Day of School!
- Jan. 29: Catholic Schools Week Begins!

Join us at Nativity to see how your child would spend his or her days here -- learning, praying, sharing, and laughing.

Yes, Catholic education is worth the investment!

Nativity Catholic School is committed to making Catholic education accessible to those who desire it, and offers financial assistance to make their dream come true.

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

JOIN OUR STAFF! Consider joining our School Staff as part of our Extended Care Team, or a Lunch/Recess Monitor, or Substitute Teacher. Contact Rich Godwin at (703) 455-2300, or rgodwin@nativityschool.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact: *Rebecca Judge*
cym@nativityburke.org

Get connected to our Youth Ministry community by filling out the free 2022-2023 registration form. See the website to register or scan the QR codes below.

LIFE TEEN: GRADES 9-12

Sundays | 6:30-8:30pm

Dinner

Fellowship

Prayer & Formation



EDGE: GRADES 6-8

Alternating Sundays 3:30-5pm
& Fridays 7-8:30pm
See website for schedule

Meet new friends

Play games

Explore your faith



EPIPHANY PARTY & WHITE ELEPHANT - JANUARY 8

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 3:30-5:00pm

Life Teen 6:30-8:30pm



Consecration to the Holy Family December 31st & January 1st

<https://nativityburke.org/category/upcoming-events/>

December 30th is the Feast of the Holy Family, and Nativity's K of C Council will assist our Pastor, Fr. Bob, in conducting a Consecration to the Holy Family for our parish Families at the end of all Masses on December 31st and January 1st.

You can learn all about this K of C program from the insert in today's bulletin or by visiting: www.kofc.org/consecration.

**Nativity is a tithing community
Giving back a portion of God's blessings in gratitude**

The Nativity Knights of Columbus invites every family of our parish to engage in the Consecration to the Holy Family at the end of all Masses on New Year’s Day weekend. 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.

Overview:

To help families live out the joy of Christ, KofC Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. 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. 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.

How to prepare for a Consecration to the Holy Family

Preparation for a Consecration to the Holy Family involves deciding that you are not only dedicating your family to the Holy Family’s intercession but also acknowledging that your family is sacred.

The decision to consecrate your family needs to be intentional and a process through which you completely surrender your family to God through the Holy Family. You are accepting the truth that salvation history was changed forever by a family and that through your domestic church, you are called to exemplify their example.

Four suggested steps before Praying the Consecration to the Holy Family:

Discuss the importance of this consecration as a family and why you are doing it.

Each member of your family is strongly encouraged to go to the Sacrament of Confession.

As a family, intentionally choose something to fast from. The fast can be for at least a week. As our physical bodies are drawn to things of the world, it is strongly encouraged that you fast from something that you would normally do or consume. Fasting helps to discipline our minds and hearts to refrain from secular activities and be more focused on God.


Prepare for the commitment you are making. Consecration to the Holy Family is not a single event. You have chosen a way of life for your family. You and your family are consciously choosing to be a beacon of light of God’s love through His Church.

O Lord Jesus,
 you lived in the home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth.
 There you grew in age, wisdom and grace
 as you prepared to fulfill your mission
 as our Redeemer.
We entrust our family to you.

O Blessed Mary,
 you are the Mother of our Savior.
 At Nazareth you cared for Jesus
 and nurtured him in the peace and joy of your home.
We entrust our family to you.

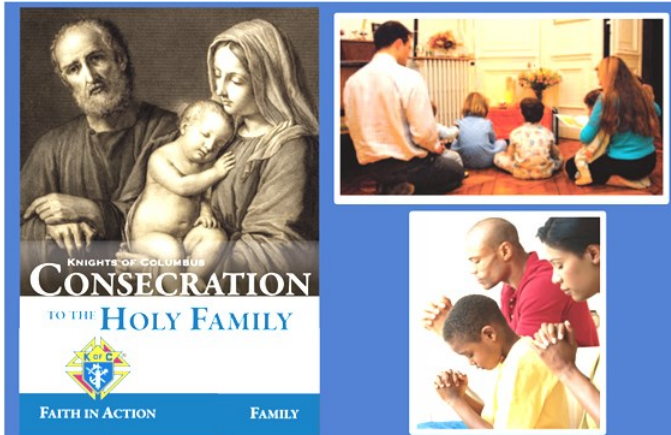
O Saint Joseph,
 you provided a secure and loving home for Jesus and Mary,
 and gave us a model of fatherhood
 while showing us the dignity of work.
We entrust our family to you.

Holy Family,
 we consecrate ourselves and our family to you.
 May we be completely united
 in a love that is lasting, faithful
 and open to the gift of new life.
 Help us to grow in virtue,
 to forgive one another from our hearts,
 and to live in peace all our days.
 Keep us strong in faith, persevering in prayer,
 diligent in our work, and generous toward those in need.
 May our home, O Holy Family,
 truly become a domestic church
 where we reflect your example in our daily life. Amen.
Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!



Prayer composed by Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, Supreme Chaplain.

ity



ty:

Go to the Nativity Website to learn more about this activity.

The Nativity of the Lord

Vigil Mass

Isaiah 62:1-5
Acts 13:16-17,22-25
Matthew 1:1-25

Midnight Mass

Isaiah 9:1-6
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14

Daytime Mass

Isaiah 52:7-10
Hebrews 1:1-6
John 1:1-18

Monday December 26

St. Stephen

Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59
Ps 31:3-4,6,8ab,16bc,17
Matthew 10:17-22

Tuesday December 27

St. John

1 John 1:1-4
Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12
John 20:1a,2-8

Wednesday December 28

Holy Innocents

1 John 1:5--2:2
Ps 124:2-5,7b-8
Matthew 2:13-18

Thursday December 29

St. John

1 John 2:3-11
Ps 96:1-3,5b-6
Luke 2:22-35

Friday December 30

Holy Family

Sirach 3:2-6,12-14
or Colossians 3:12-21
Ps 128:1-5
Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

Saturday December 31

1 John 2:18-21
Ps 96:1-2,11-13
John 1:1-18

Joy to the world! This is our song. This is what we should always be proclaiming as a people of faith.

Don't focus on what destroys your joy, for nothing can destroy the coming of the Lord. The absence of joy is merely a blank area in your view of what God is doing.

Look at the love that Jesus has for you! Jesus was born not only to save you from the darkness of sin; he was born because he loves you -- he loves YOU! Even if you had never sinned, he would have come into the world so that he could love you on your level, human-to-human.

Sometimes, great things come in surprising packages that do not seem to be great at all. The Eucharist -- in the form of a little wafer of bread -- does not look like it contains the full presence of Jesus with all of his humanity and his divinity. The baby Jesus -- a tiny, helpless child -- does not look like the conqueror of evil. But he is! And so is Jesus in the Eucharist; he is here for you.

And you! You might not seem to be a great person, but you contain Jesus. You contain greatness beyond imagining! This greatness does not dwell only in you; it comes out from



you in every good thing that you do. This is a life of faith!

To be a follower of Jesus means we learn to imitate him. In doing good, evil is defeated. In this goodness, the greatness of Jesus extends outward from us. In this goodness, there is cause for great joy.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. How much do you *really* believe that Jesus loves you? What are some examples of Jesus taking good care of you?
2. How do you reveal the love of Jesus to others?
3. When was the first time you can remember experiencing the love of Jesus and realized that it was a gift from God?
4. What does the Eucharist mean to you? How can it change you so that you leave church ready to give the love of Christ to others?

Merry Christmas! Be very blessed this Christmas season -- because Jesus is delightedly in love with you! You are invited to experience the extravagant love of Jesus all year.



Linktree Universal Sign-up Link: Want to volunteer for an event? All event sign-ups can be done through the following link. https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992 Event leads can also fill out a form to announce an event, and file an After Action Report through the link.

Family Christmas Movie Outing: Sign up on the link tree to help set up and serve refreshments for the Nativity Young Family Ministry movie outing. Event will be on 8 January from 12:00-4:30pm in the Nativity Cafeteria.

National March for Life: The annual march in support of the unborn is 20 January. Also, there is still a great need for parade Marshals. Sign up on the link tree for one or the other.

Virginia Defending Life Day & Virginia March for Life: Join Bishop Burbidge and us on 1 February for an exciting, full day of advocacy, prayer and witness at the Virginia General Assembly in Richmond! Sign up on the link tree.

Name Tags: Email Warden Michael Bender at michaelbambender@hotmail.com to order.

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

Handy Knights Ministry: If you are unable to perform basic maintenance tasks or small repairs in your home due to health or other factors, there is a ministry with the Knights of Columbus that may be able to assist – the “Handy Knights.” You can reach us at handyknightsofnativity@gmail.com.

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

Food for Others: We need volunteers to help with our food distributions. The distribution picks up from the warehouse and delivers to Springfield. It should only take about an hour of your time on Friday evenings once a month based on the current number of volunteers in rotation. If you are interested in helping deliver, contact Br. Matt Stockburger at mstock_w@yahoo.com.

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. Knights of Columbus membership brings Catholic men together in a powerful way. Join today! Simply go to <https://info.kofc.org/us.html> and enter our council #7992 for local information and to register. E-membership for the first year is free using the new code “blessedmcgivney”. Please email our Deputy Grand Knight at PMDELATTE@gmail.com or the Grand Knight at tjsgk7992@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Council Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. Rosary at 7:15 PM; meeting follows at 7:30 PM. Fellowship follows every meeting. Meetings are now in person in the Nativity school cafeteria, with the option to attend virtually as well. The second meeting of the month is devoted to faith formation including the “Into the Breach” video/discussion series and guest speakers.

Calling all 3rd Degree Knights: The 4th Degree is calling. Members of the 4th Degree have the special honor of holding the title “Sir Knight,” participating in patriotic activities, color and honor guards and organizing programs that promote Catholic citizenship. Meetings 2nd Tuesday of the month; 7:30 pm rosary: 7:45 pm business meeting followed by fellowship. If you are interested in becoming a 4th Degree Sir Knight, please contact our Faithful Navigator Mark Corzine (wfn2996@gmail.com) for more information.

Every human life is sacred
every woman, every man, every child
born and unborn

-  **We walk with mothers in need, women in crisis pregnancies, their children, and families**
Consider our resources for free or low-cost prenatal and other medical care, financial assistance, baby items, mental health counseling, spiritual, and other confidential support
-  **We offer healing to women who have experienced abortion**
Learn about Project Rachel After Abortion Care Ministry or visit a Catholic parish near you
-  **We pray, fast, and advocate for laws that protect every human life, from conception until natural death**
Join the Virginia Catholic Conference advocacy network at vacatholic.org to protect all life

Find it all here: 



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

Parish App Feature-of-the-Week



Inspiration
Daily

- 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.

Mass in Recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
All are welcome to join Bishop Michael Burbidge celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in the holy sacrifice of the Mass hosted at St. Bernadette's Catholic Church, 7600 Old Keene Mill Road in Springfield. Mass will be held on Sunday, January 15, 2023 at 11:00am, with a reception to follow. This Mass is organized and sponsored by the Black Catholic Ministry, Office of Multicultural Ministries of the Diocese of Arlington. For any questions, please email mcm@arlingtondiocese.org or call (703) 841 3881.



Pilgrimage to Saint John Paul II National Shrine

Join us on Sunday, February 5th from 10 AM- 4 PM at Saint John II National Shrine. Couples will come together for Mass, Adoration, Prayer at the Hour of Mercy followed by the Chaplet, Special Presentation on Marriage, Sacred Art Tour, and "A Gift of Love: The Life of Saint John Paul II" exhibit. \$25/couple.

Contact Jennifer Sturgeon for more details:
jsturgeon@nativityburke.org

JOIN US FOR A fiesta!

NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL SPRING AUCTION

WHEN: SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023
6:30 - 10:00PM

**WHERE: NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL,
FATHER MARTIN CENTER**

We Still Need Some Helping Hands!! Yours!!

No Hands But Yours is an original Nativity ministry that as Father Bob frequently and eloquently reminds us, does 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 both in DC (McPherson Square and tent encampments) and northern VA every Sunday morning, rain or shine. We also share Panera bread donations with local area foodbanks on Mondays and Wednesdays, and visit other DC sites on Wednesday mornings as well.

Through the generosity of a few committed parishioners, we have been able to and continue to provide bagged lunches (sandwich, banana, cookies, chips, and napkin), coffee, hot chocolate, bottled water, toilet paper, hand sanitizer, socks, undergarments, and as funds are available, hats, gloves, clothes, winter jackets, pants, shoes, sleeping bags, tarps and tents each Sunday and Wednesdays.

Our drivers and helpers leave from the Nativity parking lot after the 7:00am Mass, to distribute these lunches, supplies and donated clothing items. Those whom we have served tell us, "we know we can depend on you every Sunday to take care of us." In truth, as much as we try, there are many who go unserved or underserved. The need is great and as everyone knows, the cost of living has stretched our budget. Join us: We need your financial support and/or your time in this effort. With winter now upon us, our ministry needs more drivers (to commit to drive once every 6 weeks) and parishioners who are willing to provide bagged lunches (we currently distribute 160 -200 lunches and 96 plus rolls of toilet paper as well as five-six cases of water weekly).

If you want to help, please contact Manuel Ponciano at 202-262-6659 or email:

Manuel Ponciano> mamuelmar10@yahoo.com
Joe McKane > joeinexp@gmail.com
Jim Valentine> val6405@gmail.com
John Rubino> john.albert.rubino@gmail.com
Jim House> jchouse160@gmail.com

or leave a note in our Parish Office and one of us will get back with you shortly. If you can't spare your time right now, you can financially contribute to the "No Hands But Yours" ministry on our parish website. Please consider doing so!! For those wishing to also lend us a hand in providing some of the items listed above, the Ministry has set up a convenient on-line means of doing so, as seen below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B4AAFAC22A1FA7-nohands>

All you need to do is scroll down to see what's needed and when, check the one(s) that work for you, and then hit the orange "Submit and Sign-Up" button at the end of the page. Almost painless!! And we accept any food/adult winter clothing items after morning mass throughout the week as well...

And remember always, that "Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours..."
 – St Teresa of Avila

Basilica of Saint Mary - Yale Glee Club to Perform Sacred Music Concert

The Yale Glee Club, Yale's principal undergraduate chorus and oldest musical organization, will present a concert on Friday, January 13, at 7 p.m. in the Basilica church, 310 S. Royal Street. Under the direction of Jeffrey Douma, the ensemble will perform a wide and exciting choral repertoire, including the music of Johannes Brahms, newly commissioned works, and songs from world folk traditions. All are invited to this free event.

NEED TO TALK?

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

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. Contact John French at john.french@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-3819 with any questions. Thank you!



Pack 'n Play's Needed

'Making A Difference One Baby At A Time'

The Stella Marina, Operation Starfish project is collecting new and gently used Pack 'n Plays for moms in Haiti to use for their babies and young children. The collection runs year round. (Amazon wish list link below)

Feel free to contact Susan at swelchparis@stellamarina.org to coordinate pick up or leave in the parish office marked Stella Marina. Please see the Stella Marina website for more information. Thank you in advance on behalf of Stella Marina!

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/QY29UGH8OSQO/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_3?_encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist

For more information visit:
<https://nativityburke.org/packnplay-needed/>

**Love working with children? Want flexibility?
Consider subbing for us...**

We are in need of substitute teachers with the following minimum qualifications:

- ◆ 2-plus years of college
- ◆ Ability to follow a lesson plan and give effective instructions in the absence of the teacher
- ◆ Proficiency in maintaining effective classroom management skills
- ◆ Successful completion of Virtus training
- ◆ Successful background check
- ◆ Adherence to COVID-19 Safety Protocols

To apply, email Rich Godwin at rgodwin@nativityschool.org, or call him at (703) 455-2300, ext.146. Thank you!



Dive Deeper into the Catholic Mass!

Fr Hayes explains the significance of every part of the Mass according to Scripture, Theologians, & Tradition. Available now on the Nativity Parish Burke YouTube Channel

Nativity Job Opening - Church Office Receptionist
Evenings: Monday thru Friday from 4:00pm-9:00pm
Saturdays: from 9:00am-2:00pm

We are in need of an evening and Saturday receptionist (perfect for college student - work/study job). Job summary: To meet and greet, by phone or in person, all parishioners, guests, and persons, assist them, and/or direct them to the appropriate location. Bilingual a plus. To apply, send your resume to abenson@nativityburke.org.

Give a Gift for Life

Please give a Gift for Life this season to help Project Rachel provide counseling and healing retreats to those who suffer the effects of abortion. One after-abortion care retreatant wrote:

"I would have NEVER had the courage to show my face at this [abortion healing] retreat... God works in mysterious ways and by His grace, I found the courage to step forward in my faith.

I am so grateful that this ministry exists and was there for me... without judgement when I was ready to tackle the deep-rooted pain in my heart. I am forever grateful!" For more information and/or to donate: www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife

Are you registered in the Parish?

If you are not receiving mail or emails from the parish, chances are you are not registered. You are free to stop by the Parish Office to fill out a registration form to become a registered member of Nativity Parish or go online to: nativityburke.org and download one. Registration is required to be a Baptismal Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor.

Struggling with addiction in the family?

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

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje April 30 – May 9, 2023

SPIRITUAL LEADERS: Msgr. Raymond East & Deacon Leo Flynn

Contact DCN. LEO – Leo@theflynnteam.com (703) 328 - 4762

PACKAGE PRICE - \$2699 (BASED on double occupancy)

\$270 extra for Single Supplement

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Round-trip airfare from your desired Airport
- All airport taxes & fuel surcharges
- 8 Nights in Medjugorje at 4* Hotel
- Breakfast and Dinner / or lunch daily (Half board) Wine with dinners
- Assistance of a licensed local guide
- Transfer as per itinerary
- Sightseeing and admission fees as per itinerary Visit the community Cenacolo and Mother’s Village Climb Apparition Hill and Cross Mountain
- Daily Holy Mass
- Whisper Headsets
- Attend daily Evening program and talks
- Meeting with visionaries (Pending availability) Excursion to the places agreed by a spiritual guide Tips to your guide, driver, and hotel staff
- Excursion to the places agreed by a spiritual guide Tips to your guide, driver, and hotel staff
- 81 Tours backpack & portfolio of all travel documents

www.81tours.com

NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

“We, the People of Nativity Catholic Church, by our baptism, are joyful disciples of Jesus Christ. We strive to love God, love others, and form new disciples. We celebrate Jesus Christ in Word, Sacrament and Service.”

For Young Adults (21-39)

You are part of a larger community that...

Serves with Christ House cooking breakfast every 3rd Saturday



Grows together in 6-week Bible studies



Plays Basketball every Thursday at 8:30pm in the Father Martin Center



Serves at Mass as a greeters, ushers, musicians and more!

New? Contact our Director Alison Fram to join our newsletter

afram@nativityburke.org
(703) 577-5329



Preventing Homelessness in Fairfax County....

Family PASS provides intensive case management to address the underlying challenges that lead to homelessness: wage disparity and lack of affordable housing in Fairfax County. Our clients are working families who struggle to keep a roof over their heads due to low wages and high housing costs. As needed, we provide emergency rental assistance to avoid eviction, and then work with families to develop educational/career goals that would lead to a living wage. We also work with clients on the following: budget counseling and connecting them to community resources, assist with educational expenses, including tuition, books, technology, etc. assist with utilities, childcare, transportation, and some debt reduction, as it relates to families being able to work, achieving their goals, and stabilizing their family.

To learn more or to donate, visit our website
www.familypassfairfax.org



You can designate Nativity Church or Nativity School as the beneficiaries of your Amazon Smile! You can choose Nativity by going to: **YOUR ACCOUNT, YOUR AMAZON SMILE and designating Nativity.** Amazon then contributes a small percentage of each purchase to Nativity. For questions, please contact Ann Benson at: 703 455 2400.



2022 ORDINATIONS



Congratulations to Rev. Peter St. George, Rev. Peter Clem, Rev. Daniel Reuwer, Rev. Mauricio Portillo, Rev. Daniel Rice, Rev. John O'Farrell, Rev. Philip Briggs, Rev. Robert Renner

THEY HAVE ANSWERED THE CALL. WILL YOU?



Seminarian Education
ENDOWMENT FUND

Funding Priestly Education for the Future of Our Diocese

Make Your Gift Today!

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
The Foundation for the CDA
(Please note "SEEF" on the memo line)



THE FOUNDATION
FOR THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

MAIL TO:
Foundation for the CDA
200 North Glebe Road, Suite 811
Arlington, VA 22203

ONLINE:
To make a gift, go to:
www.arlingtondiocese.org/Donate_SEEF

CONTACT: John French, Office of Development • john.french@arlingtondiocese.org • (703) 841-3819



Quo Vadis Father-Son Seminary Visit



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

What's college seminary like? See for yourself!

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

Fathers are welcome but not required.

**Saturday
February 11
9 am - 2pm**



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

Deadline to register is February 3.

Sponsored by the Office of Vocations

703.841.2514 /

vocations@arlingtondiocese.org

HOW TO *High School*

7th & 8th Grade Workshop

@ SAINT JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Saturday, January 7, 2023 12:00 - 4:00 PM

LEARN HOW TO...

- Make the Team
- Ace the Test
- Manage Money
- Organize Your Planner
- Enjoy High School
- Find Your Thing
- Explore Your Brain
- Achieve Great Things



Free! Lunch included!

RSVP: www.jpthegreat.org

admissions@jpthegreat.org · 703.445.0246

17700 Dominican Drive, Potomac Shores, VA 22026

Snow Date: Saturday January 21, 2023

The Catholic Diocese of Arlington & Arlington Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

2023 Women's Conference

Love Rejoices In Truth

March 11th, 2023

8:30am to 2:30pm
St. Joseph Catholic Church
750 Peachtree St.
Herndon, VA 20170



The Most Reverend
Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington
Mass Celebrant and Homilist



Nikki Kingsley
Convert, Speaker
& Author of *Thirst for Truth:
From Mohammad to Jesus*

Register at:

arlingtondiocese.org/women



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



DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Office of the Bishop

200 North Glebe Road, Suite 914 • Arlington, Virginia 22203 • Office (703) 841-2511 • Fax (703) 524-5028

Navidad 2022

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

¡Hoy nos alegramos por el nacimiento de Nuestro Salvador! Su llegada, anunciada por los profetas a lo largo de los siglos, trae al mundo un gran misterio de nuestra fe: este pequeño bebé, envuelto en pañales y acostado en un humilde pesebre -nacido de una virgen- era a la vez humano y divino. Es a la vez nuestro Creador y nuestro Salvador; a la vez el Verbo Eterno, que existía antes del principio, y un hombre, que habita entre nosotros.

En respuesta a este misterio, nuestra Santa Madre proclama: "*¡Mi alma se alegra en el Señor!*". Estas palabras son también el lema de este segundo año preparatorio para la celebración de nuestro Jubileo de Oro diocesano en 2024. Nos alegramos con ella, mientras celebramos el nacimiento de Jesús, el Salvador encarnado.

El nacimiento de Jesús estuvo marcado por una estrella que brilló en el cielo. La luz que Cristo trajo al mundo en este día ha brillado con fuerza durante dos milenios. Ha revelado la gloria de Dios al guiar a los cristianos a amarse unos a otros, a proteger a los vulnerables, a cuidar de los pobres, a servir a los necesitados, a educar a los niños, a curar a los enfermos, a acoger al recién llegado, a trabajar por la justicia y a vivir en paz con nuestros vecinos.

Mientras celebramos la llegada de la verdadera Luz al mundo, ¡que nos esforcemos diariamente por caminar siempre en esa luz! Que también renovemos nuestra promesa de llevar a otros a la luz compartiendo el amor que Dios nos tiene, sus amados hijos e hijas.

Por favor, tengan la seguridad de que estoy rezando por ustedes. Que su alma se regocije en el Señor y que su paz y abundantes bendiciones sean tuyas en esta Navidad y siempre.

Sinceramente en Cristo,

Mons. Michael F. Burbidge
Obispo de Arlington

¡EN NAVIDAD HABLA DIOS! Misa de Navidad Javier Leoz

¡ALELUYA! ¡DIOS HA NACIDO!

Esta exclamación, nada ni nadie la puede acallar. Lo esperado desde siglos, se hace realidad en Jesús. Y, hoy, amigos, este gran acontecimiento nos ha puesto en pie. ¡Esto sí qué es la Navidad! También nosotros, como los pastores, hemos escuchado y sentido el anuncio del Ángel. "*Hoy en Belén os ha nacido el Salvador*". Y ¿Cuál ha sido nuestra reacción? ¡La que tenía que ser! ¡Nos hemos puesto en movimiento! Hemos dejado todo en lo que estábamos entretenidos porque el REY DE REYES merece nuestra cercanía, nuestra oración y nuestra acogida. La estrella luce; los pastores ofrecen; los reyes adora; Herodes rabia... y nosotros, para no ser menos, brillamos con la luz de la fe, ofrecemos lo que somos y adoramos a Jesús conscientes de que, Rey, ¡sólo El!

Llegar aquí, en esta mañana santa de la Navidad, es prolongar en el tiempo y en el espacio, lo que ayer noche en Belén se hizo prodigio, milagro, humildad y salvación: DIOS EN MEDIO DE NOSOTROS. Asomarnos aquí, junto al portal, es agradecer a Dios el hecho de que sigue apostando por el hombre; que sigue confiando en nosotros. ¡Tanto confía... que del hombre se fía y se hace hombre como nosotros! ¡Gracias, amigo y Señor!

Contemplar aquí, delante de la Sagrada Familia el Misterio, es dejarse impresionar por el amor gigantesco de Dios. Belén, en este día de Navidad, tiene sabor a fraternidad. En Belén, los seres humanos, se dan la paz. Y, en Belén, al abrazarnos con Dios no hacemos otra cosa que, en su pobreza, enriquecernos con todo lo bueno que Dios tiene, con todo lo bueno que El nos da.

- Nos fundamos a su pobreza, purificaremos nuestra alta-nera riqueza
- Nos afiancemos a su humildad, ennoblecerá nuestro altivo orgullo
- Nos envolvamos en su amor, hará más auténticas y radicales nuestras entregas
- Nos perdamos en su alegría, y nuestra felicidad dejará de ser una máscara

Si Dios siendo rico, se hace pobre por nosotros, algo debe existir en nuestra vida ordinaria que no gusta a Dios. Algo que necesita ser recuperado, elevado y dignificado. La Navidad, es la gran riqueza que Dios pone en medio de un mundo que, en el fondo, es pobre y mendigo de un amor auténtico.

Como los pastores hemos creído las palabras del Ángel. Y, estas palabras, nos han producido una inmensa alegría, una profunda emoción: todos nos sentimos un poco niños en el día de Navidad.

*En Belén renace la esperanza;

*en Belén se recupera el hombre viejo;

*en Belén, cesan las palabras y habla el amor;

*en Belén es posible iniciar la recuperación íntegra de nuestra sociedad, iglesia y mundo.

En el día de Navidad, Dios, nos deja sin argumentos. Queríamos pruebas de su amor, y se hace como uno de nosotros. Nos quejábamos de su lejanía, y se deja besar y contemplar en un Niño. ¿Puede hacer más Aquel que no tenía necesidad de tanto?

Pues aún así, a algunos, les parecerá poco o nada. Seguirán embelesados y perdidos con sus dioses. Mirando a la luna o extasiándose con el sol. Aquello de "*vino a los suyos y los suyos no le recibieron*" vuelve a repetirse en los corazones obstinados. En las personas que se dejan seducir por lo inmediato y son incapaces de abrirse al Misterio. Dios, en Belén, sabe que se la juega y con mucho riesgo. Se encarna en todo con el hombre: sufrirá, gozará, llorará, dudará pero al final, por Jesús, salvará. Hoy, en la cuna de Belén, el amor calla. Mañana, en Viernes Santo, el amor que fue pequeño y grande en Belén, será también igual de humilde, gigantesco, igual de solitario...pero más sangriento.

Entre maderas vino el amor de Dios al mundo, y entre maderas marchará el amor de Jesús de este mundo. Eso sí, a los pies de esas cuatro tablas -tanto en el pesebre como en la cruz- estuvo y está quien sabe siempre estar y esperar: MARIA.

Que Ella, la que ha hecho posible esta Navidad, nos ayude acercarnos al pesebre para ver al recién nacido. Que nos ayude a reflexionar sobre el sentido de estos días. Que nos empuje para beber en la fuente del amor que es Belén. Que, como Madre, nos sienta en su regazo y nos rescate de la indiferencia, del egoísmo y tantos obstáculos que nos impiden abrirnos a Dios y a los demás.

¡Bendita sea la Navidad! ¿Por qué Dios pudiendo haber venido en séquito real, lo hizo en humilde pesebre?

¡Bendita sea la Navidad! ¿Por qué Dios, que lo tenía todo, se aventuró a perderlo todo?

¡Bendita sea la Navidad! ¿Por qué Dios, teniéndolo todo, prefirió presentarse sin nada?

¡Bendita sea la Navidad! Ya que el hombre olvida y no mira a Dios, Dios -que mira mucho por el hombre- sale a nuestro encuentro para que no olvidemos que camina y vive junto a nosotros.

¡ES NAVIDAD!

Javier Leoz



QUE DESCIENDAN LOS ANGELES
Y SUENEN TRIUNFALES SUS TROMPETAS
ANTE EL GRAN MISTERIO, QUE ANUNCIADO DESDE SIGLOS
SE HACE CARNE Y PRESENTE EN LA TIERRA
QUE EL POBRE DEJE DE SERLO, Y EL RICO BRINDE
SU CORAZON

QUE EL INCREDULO SE ABRA A LA FE
Y EL CREYENTE PREGONE SIN TEMOR SU ESPERANZA

QUE LA JUSTICIA SEA POSIBLE ALLA DONDE PAREZCA
UN IMPOSIBLE
Y SURJA UNA TREGUA DE FRATERNIDAD EN MEDIO DE
LA VIOLENCIA

QUE LA PALOMA DE LA PAZ VUELE EN EL CIELO SIN MIEDO
Y EL REY DE REYES SE HAGA HUECO EN NUESTRO MUNDO
ENTRE ACLAMACIONES, ADORACION Y HOMENAJES.

QUE LA BONDAD SEA UNA SEMILLA ETERNA
Y SE ACHIQUEN, DESPARECIENDO,
LAS MONTAÑAS DEL ORGULLO

QUE EL SUFRIMIENTO DERIVE EN MIL CAMINOS FELICES
Y LA TRISTEZA SE TRANSFORME EN COLOR DE ALEGRIA

ES NAVIDAD PORQUE DIOS, EN ELLA, QUISO NACER
PORQUE DIOS DISMINUYE EN ALTURA PARA IGUALARSE
A LA NUESTRA

PORQUE DIOS DEJA LO INVISIBLE PARA SER NIÑO Y
DEJARSE VER
PORQUE DIOS SE HACE CARNE, MORTAL E INDEFENSO

ES NAVIDAD, PORQUE DIOS, SIEMPRE TIENDE UN PUENTE
PORQUE SE EXPLAYA, COMO NUNCA LO HIZO, EN DERROCHE DE
AMOR

PORQUE HASTA PARECE DETENERSE EL TIEMPO Y SE CUMPLEN
LAS PROMESAS

PORQUE, EN UN PESEBRE, ENCONTRAMOS
EL PERDON Y EL AMOR, LA VIDA Y LA ALEGRIA, LA PAZ Y LA ESPE-
RANZA, EL LLANTO DE DIOS QUE LLORA Y EL CORAZÓN DE JESUS
QUE LATE
¡ES NAV

IDAD!

UNA ESTRELLA NOS INDICA EL CAMINO
DE LOS QUE ESPERAN Y NUNCA FRACASAN
DE LOS QUE CREEN Y NO DESESPERAN
DE LOS QUE BUSCAN Y NO SE CANSAN

DE LOS QUE ADORAN Y DOBLAN SUS RODILLAS
SIN TEMOR NI VERGÜENZA ANTE UN DIOS HUMANADO

¡ES NAVIDAD!

PORQUE, ALLÁ AL FONDO, LA SILUETA DE UNA FAMILIA
SANTA Y SAGRADA, SONRIE Y ACOGE, ENSEÑA Y CONFIA
PORQUE, ALLÁ AL FONDO, MARIA ACUNA EL FRUTO DE AQUEL "SI"
Y JOSÉ ES FELIZ PENSANDO EN CÓMO VENCÍÓ SUS DUDAS

¿SABÉIS POR QUÉ ES NAVIDAD?

ES CUESTIÓN DE PERDERSE EN LA GRUTA DE BELÉN
Y DEJAR QUE DIOS DE LA RESPUESTA:

**NAVIDAD ES EL AMOR MAYOR
NUNCA JAMAS CONOCIDO EN LA TIERRA**

Horario de las Misas de Navidad

Sábado, 24 de diciembre

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

Domingo, 25 de diciembre | Navidad

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

1:00pm* (Español)

*Transmisión en vivo en YouTube

NO habrá Misa a las 5:30pm

Feliz Navidad

Horario de misas del fin de semana

de Año Nuevo

Sábado, 31 de diciembre

9:00am, 5:00pm, 7:00pm (Español)

Domingo, 1 de enero

7:00am, 9:00am, 11:00am, 1:00pm (Bilingüe),

NO habrá misa a las 5:30pm

*¡Les deseamos a todos un Feliz
y Bendecido Año Nuevo!*



NAVIDAD - A

Evangelio: Lc 2,15-20 (misa de la aurora) Con los pastores

Con cuatro misas y sus respectivas lecturas nos obsequia la liturgia cristiana para celebrar el Nacimiento de Cristo. La misa vespertina que recuerda a María encinta y a José admirado y receloso por esa concepción, pero que es advertido por un ángel del misterio acontecido en su mujer. La misa de medianoche que, guiados ya por San Lucas, recuerda el Nacimiento de Jesús en la cueva de Belén, y el anuncio del suceso a los pastores por los ángeles.

Por la mañana, en la aurora, la Palabra de Dios nos invita a acompañar a los pastores, que adoran a Jesús en la cueva de Belén. Por fin, en la misa del mediodía, es San Juan, con su prólogo, el que nos invita a adentrarnos en el misterio de la Navidad, cuando nos hace meditar que "la Palabra de Dios se hizo Hombre y acampó entre nosotros".

Oración para cada día de la semana

Señor, Jesús, con la alegría profunda y desbordante, que me produce tu nacimiento en la cueva de Belén, quiero empezar uniéndome a las alabanzas angélicas. "¡Gloria a Dios en el cielo, y en la tierra paz a los hombres que Dios ama!".

Espero merecer cada día tu amor, pues este es mi propósito diario: acoger tu voluntad en mi vida, luchar por cumplirla, esforzarme por testimoniarla, y procurar disfrutarla y compartirla con mi familia, mis amistades y colegas, en todos los momentos y lugares donde discurra mi vida. Precisamente no puedo olvidar que te hiciste hombre para que yo viva con el amor y la alegría de ser hijo de Dios.

Ante tu nacimiento, los cristianos no podemos por menos de alegrarnos y felicitarnos mutuamente; y por eso me postro ante la cuna de Belén, para compartir esta dicha y transmitir mi felicitación a todos, con la oración humilde y confiada, universal y comprometida.

También quiero acompañar a los pastores, y encontrarte "como niño acostado en un pesebre", con María y José; y en ese lugar decirte todo lo que mi corazón siente, goza y sufre, comparte y anhela. Me siento feliz de ser cristiano, y poder vivir como hijo de Dios, y hermano –en la fe y en el amor– de todos los hombres. ¡Gracias, Señor, por tu presencia en este mundo para hacernos hijos de Dios!

Al mismo tiempo, Señor, sufro porque son muchos los que aún no te conocen, y los que conociéndote no te aman, ni se abren a tu amor ni al amor de los demás. Te pido, Señor, por todos los que no tienen fe, o la han perdido.

Para todos imploro la humildad y sencillez de los pastores, y por tanto la sinceridad de vida, porque quiero compartir de verdad mi fe con todos.

Como los pastores "me levanto" de la oración dando gloria y alabanza a Dios por todo lo que me has concedido ver y oír, por todo lo que me has dado, por las alegrías y satisfacciones con que me obsequias cada día

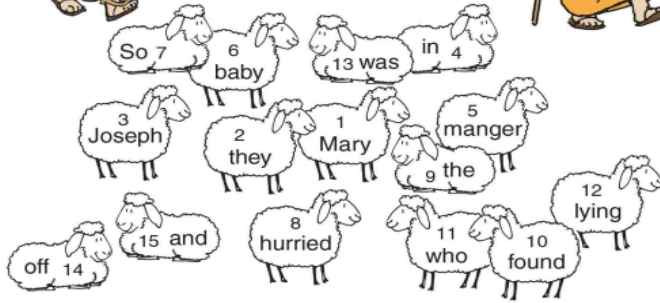
Padre Segismundo Fernandez Rodríguez



The shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."



Add the two numbers found under each line to find the correct word to write on the blank.



- $3+4=$ $1+1=$ $6+2=$ $5+9=$ $8+7=$
 $1+9=$ $0+1=$ $6+9=$ $2+1=$
 $5+10=$ $4+5=$ $3+3=$ $9+2=$ $7+6=$
 $5+7=$ $1+3=$ $6+3=$ $3+2=$

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen.

While they were in Bethlehem, the time came for Mary's baby to be born. She gave birth to her firstborn, a son.

Unscramble the letters to fill in the missing words.

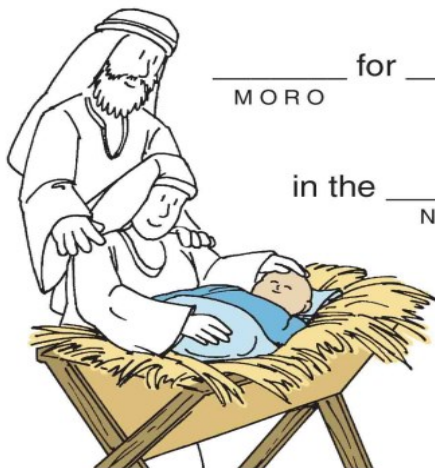
She _____ Him in _____
 PPERAWD THLOCS

and _____ Him in a _____,
 CEDALP ERGMNA

_____ there was no
 CUASEEB

_____ for _____
 MORO EHTM

in the _____
 NIN



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Ages 7+

December 25, 2022 • Luke 2:1-20

Jesus Is Born!

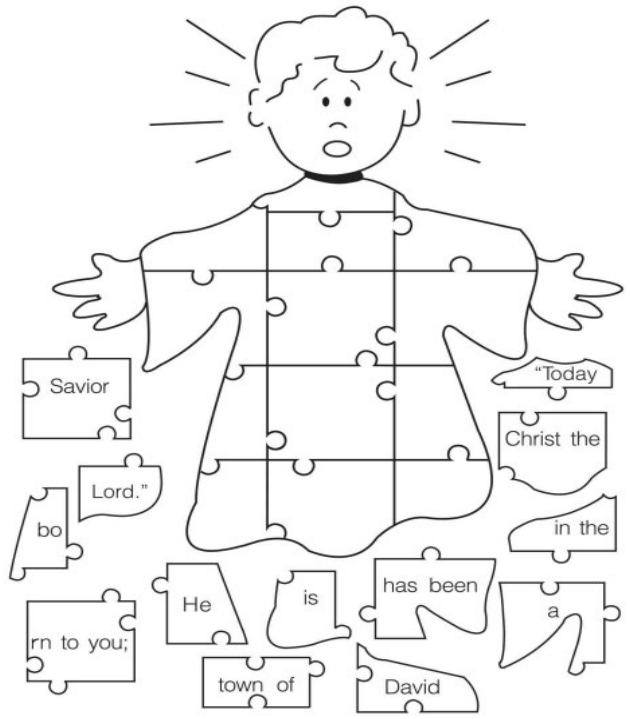
Joseph and Mary traveled to register for the census.

Use the compass code to fill in the blanks.

“ _____ N _____ SSE _____
 _____ NNE _____ SW _____ ESE _____
 _____ S _____ , _____
 _____ ENE _____ NW _____
 _____ WNW _____ NE _____ , _____
 _____ W _____ WSW _____
 _____ E _____ NNE _____ ENE _____
 _____ SE _____ SSW _____ NNW _____ WNW _____ NE _____ ”

There were shepherds in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and they were terrified. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."

Copy the words from the puzzle pieces to find out what else he said.



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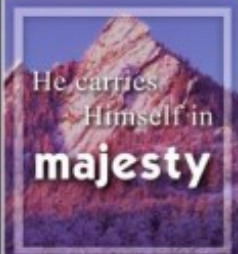
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