

Immaculate Conception Parish, Monmouth
© 2018 Diocesan Publications

The Holy Family



**6400 Nativity Lane,
Burke, Virginia 22015**
nativityburke.org



REV. MSGR. ROBERT C. CILINSKI, PASTOR
REV. JONATHAN BENNETT, PAROCHIAL VICAR
REV. JORDAN EVANS, PAROCHIAL VICAR
**REV. CEDRIC P. WILSON, ASSISTING PRIEST/
SPANISH MINISTRY**
DEC. RICHARD F. KELLY

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) 455-0872
R.E. OFFICE FAX: (703) 455-6832

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
Diane Dellen, Receptionist/Baptism Coordinator
Caroline Chase, Receptionist/Bulletin Editor
Ana Gonzalez, Offertory/Mass Intentions
Charlie Gutierrez, Evening Receptionist
Patricia Pagouda, Coordinator Family Ministry/Social Action
Rebecca Judge, Director of Youth Ministry
Mary Castellano, Director of Social Media
Anna Lisa Licud, Coordinator Marriage Enrichment
Carole Fischl, Co-director of Music
Debbie Doyle, Co-director of Music
Mai Tran, Traditional Choir Director
Sara Prince, Youth Choir Director
Mina Lee, Cornerstone Contemporary Choir Director
Natacha Hines, Gift Shop

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./11:00a.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. Monday, Tuesday and
Thursday
9:00 a.m. on Saturday

ADORATION: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday

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/](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 11:00 AM on
Tuesday (5 days prior to publication). Please note:
this deadline can change due to holiday office closings.
Email submissions to bulletin@nativityburke.org.

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

WEBMASTER:
Emilia Hartline, webmaster@nativityburke.org

**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
Joyce Kelly, SPRED Coordinator

SOCIAL MEDIA:
Mary Castellano, socialmedia@nativityburke.org

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELOR

Marguerite Turner, MS, LPC (703) 454-2415 or
mturner@ccda.net

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

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



“Heartfelt Compassion, Kindness, Humility, Gentleness and Patience” - Col 3:12

My dear parishioners,

The Christmas message brings incredible hope and joy to the world. The Christmas story continues to happen in our lives. Christ the Savior is born into our families and into each of our hearts.

God comes as an unexpected gift, an unexpected child, a holy surprise of God. This Christ child continues to break down the barriers caused by sin, to bring reconciliation and healing to the world. That first Christmas night, heaven and earth met, and the human family was once again reconciled with God. Peace was announced by the angels. And we can always be at peace with God and one another if only we accept and welcome Christ into our hearts.

I am so inspired by the faith and generosity of Nativity Parish. There is lots of love in the community and I see the face of Christ in each family and each person. On behalf of Fr. Bennett, Fr. Evans, Fr. Wilson, Deacon Kelly, Sister Donatella and Sister Mary Attilia, I wish you all my sisters and brothers, a most blessed and grace filled Christmas. Be assured you will all be remembered in the holy sacrifice of the Mass. May the light of Christ shine on all your hearts. Merry Christmas to all our beautiful families!

Love and blessings,

Msgr. Bob Cilinski
Pastor

To All Nativity Parishioners:

The Advent Giving Tree was a huge success because of the generosity of our Nativity Parish Family!! We collected hundreds of gifts and over \$12,800 in gift cards!! In addition, a large number of gifts were mailed directly to several charities, as well as an unknown number of gifts donated straight to Catholic Charities through use of a QR code.

WON enthusiastically supports and administers this project, but it is you, our parishioners who make it possible.

This year we were once again overwhelmed by the outpouring of love shown by so many of you. On behalf of the families who received your gifts and gift cards through the Advent Giving Tree Project: THANK YOU!!!

Thank you to all who supported Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington's Parish Christmas Collection. Your donation brings healing and hope to those who need it most. If you have not made a gift yet, you may still contribute by donating online at ccda.net/Christmas.



**Consecration to the Holy Family Event
27 and 28 December 2025**

December 28th 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 27th and 28th. 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/holy-family-consecration/>

You can also learn all about this K of C program here: www.kofc.org/consecration. Information is also on the Parish Website under Activities and Events.

On Saturday, December 27th and Sunday, December 28th, 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.

The Parish Office will be closed all day on:

Monday, December 29th
Wednesday, December 31st
Thursday, January 1st
Friday, January 2nd

Please check our website for further details regarding the Christmas and New Year Schedule!



Mass Schedule for January 1, 2026

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation and World Day of Prayer for Peace

Wednesday, December 31, Vigil Mass at 5:00 pm
Thursday, January 1, Mass at 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 1:00 pm (Spanish)



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

IN LOVING MEMORY OF OR WITH SPECIAL INTENTION FOR

Alexander J. Rohan, Margaret Rohan. Alice Cavanaugh, Vincent C. Occhipinti and Maragaret Occhipinti
Our Parents
All our Deceased Family Members
Deceased Members of the Werner and Wine Families
Philip, Kathleen and Bob McHugh
Deceased Members of the Betts and Frain Families
Sally Mernah and Gloria Summers
Karl and Sheila Posch, Lloyd and Evelyn Reinhard, Janice Jaekle and Brian O'Neill, with special intention for Don Reinhard
My Beloved Wife, Henrietta
Loving Mother Henrietta Critelli
Graciano and Carmen Morales
Edith and Louis Kane
Jeanne and LeRoy McConaghay
Philip Hartzog
Clarice and Roger Duthiers
Robert S. McCormick Jr., Sherry McCormick, Evard Cottrill and Anna Cottrill
Franck and Fifie Bayard
Earl and Mary Hartzog
David J. Lynch
The Kolodziej, Trzok, Borrelli & Cantu Families
Our Deceased Family Members and Friends
Departed Members of the Gerencsek and Lewis Families

Deceased Members of the O'Malley and Vautour Families
Our Parents and Grandparents
The Tokerak, Spachtholz and Fleming Families
Jack Scorce
The McKnight and Goffredi Families
Robert Hansen
Daniel Hunter and Thomas Kinley
Dorothy Cahill and Mae Lamagna
Dennis Lacot
Our Moms and Dads
Deceased Members of the Yarros Family
Patsy, Shirley and Joe Palladino
Kerry Gorton
Brother Douglas Sheliga
Jerry Murdock and all Deceased Members of the Caffi, Murdock, Pesce and Merriman Families
Our Parents
Katie Cassidy
Nora de Leon Ramirez, Edy Marcos
Len Yankosky
Deceased Members of the Ginty and Nassif Families
The Connell, DiPalma and Martin Families
John and Mary Rimkus, Jerome and Helen Timm, William and Magdalene Hayes
Lois Bond, T. E. Bond, Carolyn Makurat, A. L. Brault Jr.
Kerry Gorton
Fannie Ward, Hubert Ward, Michael and Angelina Santoro, John and Susie Seeder
Jeffery Herb, we love and miss you so much, Merry Christmas
Robert DeVito and Margaret O'Grady

DONATED BY

Vincent and Carol Ann Occhipinti

Tim and Donna Kilbourn
Mr. and Mrs. John McGillvray Jr.
The Werner Family
Kathy McHugh
Allan and Patricia Betts
John Mernah family
The Reinhard Family

Francis Critelli
Amanda Critelli Damico
Sonia Garcia
Bob and Paula Kane
The Mukai Family
Carole and Sabrina Hartzog
The Hartzog and Bayard Families
Kim and Robert McCormick
The Hartzog and Bayard Families
The Hartzog Family
Joanne Lynch
Mary Louise Kolodziej
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Golinowski
Thomas & Jean Lewis and Family
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Karbowski
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Malley

The Spachtholz Family
Joli Fekeci
The McKnight Family
Sue Hansen
The Hunter Family
The Cahill Family
The Lacot Family
Bruce and Linda Nordstrom
The Brandt Family
The Mitchell Family
The Gorton Family
Vivian Sheliga, your sister
Kitty Murdock

Mark and Lise Harvey

Nora and Elmer Marcus
Mary Ann Yankosky and Team Yank
The Ginty Family
Pat Connell
Charles and Ann Rimkus
Susan and Edward Bond and Family
The Gorton Family
Michael and Tina Ward
Kevin and Denise Herb
The O'Grady Family

National March For Life Friday, January 23, 2026

Sign up to join us on the Nativity-provided free bus, snag a warm yellow Nativity for Life beanie on the bus and connect with 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 in what has become the world’s largest annual human rights demonstration.



We will depart after the Nativity’s March for Life 10am Mass, board the bus, attend the noon Rally with a host of inspiring speakers, start marching at 1:00pm, stop at St. Peter’s Church for hot chocolate/coffee/ restroom break & then return at 4:00pm.



If you can’t make it in person, please pray!

WORKCAMP 2026 Registration Open

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

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

Missed the interest meeting? See the handout on our website for details about registration, costs, formation, and volunteer needs.

WorkCamp 2026: June 20-26
Contact: wc@nativityburke.org





LIGHTS! CAMERA! FAITH!

Hey 8-12th graders!
Step out of the audience and become part of an amazing adventure in:

THE ARLINGTON DIOCESE

ONE ACT & SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

Performances: January 25, St. Leo the Great Catholic Church
February 6 & 7, Nativity Catholic Church

Directed by
Barbara E. Schwartz

Peace in the Storm

Chronic Pain and Illness Support Group



Thursday, January 8 | 12:45 -2:15 pm | Fr. Ready Room

Do you have diabetes, high blood pressure, or high cholesterol? Do you have to take medications every day? Nativity Catholic Church is aware of the many challenges that chronic illness and chronic pain pose in the lives of our parishioners. All adult parishioners who have chronic pain or illness are invited to participate in a parish-based, small, faith fellowship group developed by the national ministry called The Peace in the Storm Project. We meet to reflect, pray, and deepen our understanding of God’s love, presence, and purpose with and through health challenges within the context of our Catholic faith and parish community. Group participants will receive The Peace in the Storm Project **Discussion Guide** at no cost.



If you are interested in joining the group or for more information, please email Anna Lisa Licud at alicud@nativityburke.org or visit our parish website www.nativityburke.org/peace-in-the-storm/

Honduras Mission Trip 2026



Operation Starfish®

July 12-18, 2026

This mission trip is designed for College-age and Young Adult parishioners to visit our newest partnership in Honduras through Operation Starfish.



ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Book for 2026 is now open. This is a thoughtful way to honor a loved one, living or deceased. If you are interested, please stop by the parish office to sign up. You can also go online and reserve flowers on our website at: <https://nativityburke.org/altar-flowers/>.



FOR E-GIVING, PLEASE USE THE QR CODE OR VISIT:
<https://osvhub.com/nativityburke/giving/funds>



A message from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

The Gospel of Matthew shows the Holy Family in motion: fleeing, returning, relocating. Joseph receives God’s guidance through dreams, and each time he obeys without hesitation even when the path is uncertain. This reveals something essential: holiness in family life often emerges not in perfect stability, but in faithful responsiveness to God amid disruption. Many of our families know the experience of sudden change job loss, illness, grief, relocation, conflict. The Holy Family shows us that God accompanies us in every transition, and that trust in God’s voice however it reaches us helps us navigate life’s storms. Family life is best lived on a healthy planet where the benefits and burdens of earth are equally shared. Recognizing our responsibility to this common home of ours is an imperative. Parents have a responsibility to teach their children to care for the earth because the family is truly the domestic church where lasting values are imbued. (Excerpted from Catholic Climate Covenant)



MASS INTENTIONS & MASS SCHEDULE
“We are God’s People”
 1 Peter 2:10

Monday, December 29

7:30 am † Eedo Kernus
 12:00 pm † Roger LaCarrubba

Tuesday, December 30

7:30 am † Robert Hansen
 12:00 pm † Sister Dolores Toscano

Wednesday, December 31

7:30 am † Eedo Kernus
 5:00 am Nativity Parishioners

Thursday, January 1—New Year’s Day

7:00 am † Edna Mae Snee
 9:00 pm † Souls in Purgatory
 11:00 am Nativity Parishioners
 1:00 pm Special Intention for Paulo Garcia (*Spanish*)

Friday, January 2

7:30 am † James Micheline

Saturday, January 3

9:00 am Special Intention for Rick Crum
 5:00 pm † Steven Hostetter
 7:00 pm In Thanksgiving (*Spanish*)

Sunday, January 4

7:00 am † Lucy Klimkos
 9:00 am † Jairo Gustavo Vargas
 11:00 am Special Intention for America’s Sea Services, Navy, Merchant Marine, Marine Corps and Coast Guard
 1:00 pm † Nancy Gogolkiewicz
 5:30 pm Nativity Parishioners

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

Employment Opportunities in the Diocese

Find the perfect Opportunity at:
<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/human-resources/>

Where is Your Calling to Serve?



Join the Nativity Knights of Columbus, Viridiane’s Hope, and Commissioned by Christ on a mission trip to Cameroon, West Africa in 2026. Two trips are planned: February 17–27 for 4–6 participants and October 22—November 1 for 12-15 participants.

Missionaries will serve rural communities by drilling wells, renovating chapels, planting gardens, and supporting youth education. For more information, contact Joe Tiago at vhchecorp@gmail.com or Michelle Haworth at michelle.haworth@commissionedbychrist.org. Learn more at vhche.org or cbc-missions.org.

Save the Date!

NATIVITY STARS
GALA & AUCTION
A night at the races!

Saturday, May 16, 2026
 6:30 p.m.
 Nativity Catholic School
 Fr. Martin Center

Walk Humbly
 Bishop Burbidge

Listen on Apple Podcasts Spotify

APPALACHIA HOME BUILDING SPECIAL COLLECTION — JANUARY 17/18

On the weekend of January 17/18, the Knights will be speaking at all the Masses asking for your help to continue their home building effort in one of the poorest counties in our country. For the last 25 years, the Nativity Knights and Nativity Parish have partnered with the Appalachian Construction Crew operating out of Bellevue, Nebraska, to build one home in McCreary County, Kentucky, which is rated as one of the top counties in this country for income below the poverty level. Throughout the year both crews raise money to offset the cost of approximately \$110,000 to build the home.

Last year, the three-bedroom home cost \$103,000 (including the costs of new beds). Nativity is the main funding source for the annual home building effort. Without Nativity's support, the home building effort would have ceased in 2005. Last year, the combined crew built a home for the Tucker family, a grandmother raising her two grandchildren. Last year we increased our goal to expand our outreach efforts in the county to help more families in addition to the family receiving their new home. We raised over \$125,000, with approximately \$25,000 providing hygiene kits for over 200 children, help with home repairs, and vouchers to help with medical and utility bills. Our goal this year is to reach \$125,000 again.

This year Good Shepherd Chapel in Whitley City selected the Mitchell family of three to receive Nativity's 28th home. The grandmother is raising two small grandchildren. The current dilapidated trailer will be demolished and the new home built on the current site. Over a very compressed two weeks in June, the combined crews will build a 1,100SF, three-bedroom home, complete with porches, heating/AC, and appliances--the family assists if they are able. A handyman prepares the foundation and because of county requirements, we must hire local electricians, HVAC specialists, and plumbers who work side-by-side with our crews to complete the home which has significantly added to our costs. Nativity will again provide new complete beds for all the family members.

Please help as you can, but above all pray that we may be able to continue this important mission! The Knights will be collecting at all the church exits after all the Masses—checks may be made payable to Nativity Catholic Church but annotate Appalachia Home Building on the check and your church envelope number to facilitate posting to your account. Please consider electronic giving if possible; Appalachia Home Building is one of the designated charities. If you would like to mail your contribution, please send it to Nativity Catholic Church, 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA 22015. Please call Bob Corsi at 703-239-2890 if you have any questions or email him at bobcorsi@cox.net. **PLEASE HELP US!!**



Christmas Thanks



Thank you to all who made our Christmas Masses so beautiful! The church was decorated so beautifully, the choirs sang in joyous praise, the Liturgical Ministers, including our altar servers, lectors, ushers, greeters and Eucharistic Ministers who served with love.

Many thanks to our Musicians, Sacristans, Parish and Maintenance Staff, Mass Coordinators, our Priests and Deacons who made our Advent and Christmas liturgies so beautiful. Special thanks to our Art and Environmental Committee chaired by Vickie Sands, our Sacristan Maureen Andersen, and our choir directors Carole Fischl, Debbie Doyle, Mai Tran, Mina Lee and Sara Prince. Special thanks to the Knights of Columbus who provided parking lot ministry of Welcome and Safety!

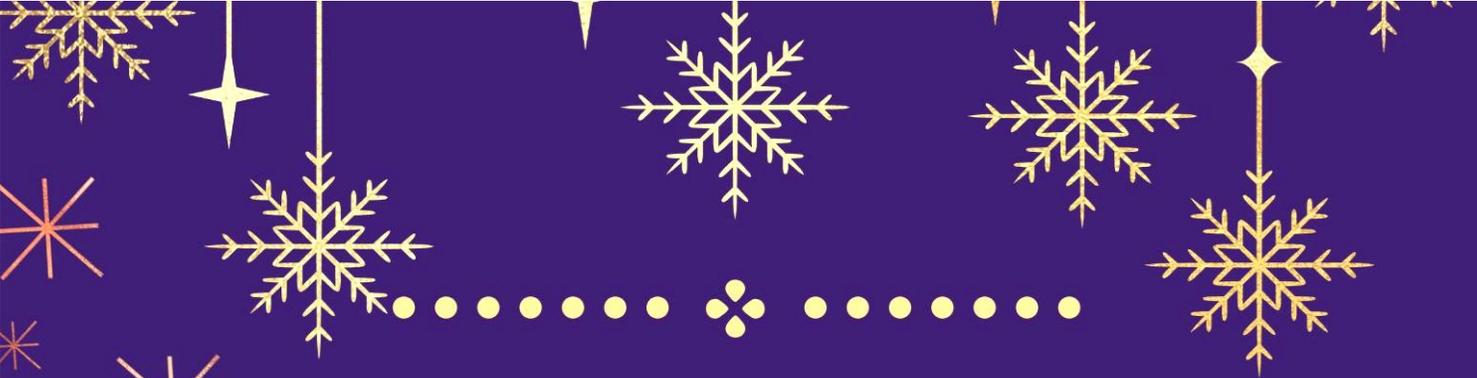
SAFETY ALERTS!!

NOTE about GROTTO FLOWERS PLACEMENT

For safety, landscape erosion, and maintenance reasons, we kindly ask that parishioners refrain from placing flowers, glass vases or plants on the upper ledge of the grotto where the Lady of Fatima statue sits. The Art & Environment Ministry will place artificial arrangements in safe, weighted pots flanking the statue during the Christmas and Easter seasons.

NOTE about VOTIVE CANDLE PLACEMENT

For safety and fire hazard reasons, we kindly ask that parishioners refrain from placing candles on the wooden ledge on which the statue of St. Anthony sits. Candles should be contained in the votive candle rack/stands provided at the brick wall to the left of the St. Jude niche.



Christmas & Year End Office Schedule

Wednesday, December 24 - Office Closed

Thursday, December 25 - Office Closed

Friday, December 26 - Office Closed

Saturday, December 27 - Open 9:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday, December 28 - Open 8:00am - 2:00pm

Monday, December 29 - Office Closed

Tuesday, December 30 - Open 8:00am - 5:00pm

Wednesday, December 31 - Office Closed

Thursday, January 1 - Office Closed

Friday, January 2 - Office Closed

Saturday, January 3 - Open 9:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday, January 4 - Open 8:00am - 2:00pm





Date Night for Couples

Welcoming Conflight as an Opportunity for Learning: Navigating Your Approach to Conflict

Speaker: Jeanine Turner

Saturday, January 24

6:30-8:30 PM

Nativity Cafeteria

Register Online:

nativityburke.org/mem-date-night/

Contact: Anna Lisa Licud

marriage@nativityburke.org

Childcare & dinner provided!



ROSARY MINISTRY MEETING

These frosty days are perfect for making rosaries! The Rosary Ministry is meeting on Tuesday, January 20 from 1:00-3:00 pm in the Fr. Ready Room. We have all the supplies you need to make Mission Rosaries that are put in the hands of people all around the world. We recite the rosary for the first 15 minutes, praying for intentions and then we set out to teach anyone with a desire to learn. For more information contact us at rosaryministry@nativityburke.org.



**Support Our Seminarians
During Our \$100,000 Challenge Gift
Make Your Gift Today!**



Mail your check made out to:
Foundation for CDA-SEEF

200 N. Glebe Rd., Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203

CONTACT: Gretchen Koch • gretchen.koch@arlingtondiocese.org

To make a gift online: arlingtondiocese.org/Donate_SEEF

ECHO Collection next weekend, 3/4 January Food Room Most Needed Items

Thank you for including ECHO Food Room needs on your shopping list. The USDA calculates that a meal for one persons is considered to be 1.2 pounds of food. Thus far this fiscal year ECHO has distributed 288,560 pounds of food which converts to 240,466 meals given to our neighbors in Burke and Springfield. Thank you donors for your generosity in helping our neighbors. Your help is greatly appreciated. We collected 1,192 lbs of food on the weekend of December 6/7.

ECHO 's policy is to not give expired, open or repackaged food to clients. PLEASE do not bring these items or glass jars!!

Bag Beans (black, red or garbanzo beans preferred), Lentils Bag rice, Protein Items (can chicken, Spam, sardines, salmon, tuna, chili) Canned Fruit (100% juice), Peanut Butter, Cereal/ Oatmeal (Low sugar), Instant (Box) Potatoes, Box Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Can Tomatoes, Tomato paste & sauce, Can Milk, Shelf Stable Milk and Hot Chocolate, Snacks (Crackers, raisins, granola bars, dry fruit, nuts), Baked Beans, Instant Coffee, Tea (green, herbal, black), Pancake Mix & Syrup, Cooking Oil, Non -Salt Spices (cinnamon, cumin, pepper, garlic powder, onion powder), Masa (Corn) Flour, Sugar, Lemon or Lime Juice Honey and Jelly, Tortillas (corn and flour), Condiments (Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Mustard), Macaroni & Cheese. Muffin Mix, Toilet Paper, Facial Tissues, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Soap, and Dish Soap, Adult's Toothbrushes, Body/Hand Lotion, Band Aids Diapers - Sizes 2, 4, 5, 6, Baby Wipes, Sanitary Napkins.

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

Virginia Pro-Life Day in Richmond - January 15, 2026

Carpool with us and to snag a warm yellow Nativity for Life beanie as we support life issues along with Bishop Burbidge and enjoy the camaraderie of other pro-life people from across the state during the 5th annual VA Pro-Life Day! Your personal presence is vital.

Talking points, legislative updates and tips for effective advocacy will be provided by the organizers to make meetings easy and successful.

You can just listen and learn, or volunteer to highlight the provided pro-life talking points of one of the bills. We will gather in constituent groups at Greater Richmond Convention Center at 8:30am to listen to inspiring speeches and review provided talking points package, then meet with our respective state senator/delegate, and then optionally visit galleries or attend Mass before lunch and heading back to Nativity. Tentative Schedule for Pro-Life Advocacy Day to follow.



Contact rickloffredo@outlook.com if interested in carpooling. For more official event details and to register, <https://vaprolifeday.org/>.



Father Vincent S. Sikora Knights of Columbus Council No. 7992 will be awarding up to eight George Getek Memorial Pro-Life Scholarships in the amount of \$750 each to eligible 8th-grade, high school and college/university/trade school students



ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIPS

These scholarships are in memory of the Council's Passionate Pro-Life Leader George Getek. One scholarship, designated the Mike Litzelman Memorial Pro-Life Scholarship in honor of this dedicated right-to-life advocate, will be awarded to the top scoring eligible 8th-grade applicant. All entrants, including the remaining 8th graders, are eligible for the remaining scholarships.

Every student that applies for a scholarship—or even reads the application—will be better equipped to address some of the most critical issues. This can lead to conversion of hearts, the saving of lives, and much reduced heartache and distress in the future!

The purpose of this initiative is to further build up the Culture of Life at Nativity from the “ground-up”, energizing eight-grade, high school and college/university/trade school students to:

- Become better educated on pro-life issues consistent with Catholic Church teaching.
- Better understand Catholic pro-life thinking to help students be more confident, more at ease, and better equipped to address current life topics with their friends and others they interact with in the secular world.

CRITERIA

1. The applicant or the applicant's parent(s)/guardian(s) must be registered member(s) of Nativity Catholic Church, Burke, Virginia.
2. A student does not have to have any pro-life experience to win a scholarship.



DUE DATE

4

JAN 2026

APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN
MIDNIGHT, SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2025.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND TO APPLY, GO TO
[HTTPS://NATIVITYBURKE.ORG/GETEK-MEMORIAL-
SCHOLARSHIP/](https://nativityburke.org/getek-memorial-scholarship/)

YOUTH MINISTRY

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



EDGE: GRADES 6-8
Fridays twice a month
6:30-8:00 p.m.
See website for full schedule



EPIPHANY PARTY: JANUARY 4
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 p.m.

LIFE IS VERY GOOD - JANUARY 22
Join us for a night of praise the evening before the annual March for Life! The night will feature dynamic speakers & musicians, Adoration, relics, & more! The cost is \$10 and is open to teens in grades 6-12.

See website for full schedule
Before attending, please register for the 2025-2026 year of ministry using our free, online forms.

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

Love working with children? Want flexibility? Consider subbing at Nativity School! Please Join Us!

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

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



For more information, email Rich Godwin at rgodwin@nativityschool.org, or call him at (703) 455-2300, ext.146; or you can contact Shannon Murphy, our Registrar, at (703) 455-2300, or smurph@nativityschool.org.

Pro-Life Corner

Profile: Sisters of Life

"The *Sisters of Life* are women who are in love with Love—Love incarnate, crucified, and Risen—and captivated by the truth of the beauty of every human person, created in God's image and likeness. We believe every person is valuable and sacred. We believe that every person is good, loved, unique and unrepeatable. We believe that every person's life has deep meaning, purpose and worth. In fact, we give our lives for that truth.



- **We vow to protect and enhance the sacredness of every human life.** The Sisters of Life are a contemplative/active Roman Catholic community of women religious, who profess the three traditional vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, and a fourth vow to protect and enhance the sacredness of human life. As spiritual mothers living in the heart of the Church, we experience the threats to human dignity and life all the more deeply. We pray. We fast. We serve. Why? Because we want to uphold the dignity and worth of each person, created from and for God's great love.

- **Our missions.** Our missions include serving women who are vulnerable to abortion, giving them the support and resources to be able to choose life for themselves and their children; hosting weekend retreats; evangelization; outreach to college students; and helping women who have suffered after abortion to encounter the mercy and healing of Jesus Christ."

<https://sistersoflife.org/>

- Sign up for free IMPRINT magazine mailing list: <https://sistersoflife.org/imprint-sign-up/>

- Let Love podcasts: <https://sistersoflife.org/let-love-podcast/> (S18: Listening in Advent)

- Located in nearby DC: <https://sistersoflife.org/where-we-are/dc/>

- Vocations—For Love Alone: <https://sistersoflife.org/vocations/>

- To Donate: <https://sistersoflife.org/donate/>

"Your generosity makes possible our religious lives and missions. We rely completely on God's providence, through the financial support of our benefactors. Your contribution helps to provide for the needs of our Sisters, as well as provide for the needs of our missions to pregnant women, women who have suffered after abortion, and some of our evangelization efforts."

<https://sistersoflife.org/donate/>

KOVAR Enduring Love Campaign – Homes for Intellectually Disabled: Stand with parents who seek to find a home for their children that outlive their ability to provide direct care on their own. Contact Mark Sawyer, sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net.

End of Life Medical Directives:

The Advance Medical Directive is a legal instrument authorized by, and meeting the requirements of the laws of Virginia which can be completed for use by all Catholics—whether young or old, healthy or dying. Go to: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/family-life/respect-life/end-of-life-medical-directives/>.

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.

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

The National Catholic Bioethics Center:

Provides education, guidance, and resources to the Church and society to uphold the dignity of the human person in health care and biomedical research, thereby sharing in the ministry of Jesus Christ and his Church. <https://www.ncbcenter.org>.

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

Nativity Celebrating the King of Kings



At a school named Nativity, we take the birth of our savior to heart – especially at Christmas!



Whether it's telling the story of Jesus' birth, showcasing the singing and acting talents of our students in the Christmas pageant – particularly the acting talents of our 5th graders – or, in

highlighting our 2nd graders' own STEM-designed visions of the Nativity scene (see next issue!), we come together as a community to celebrate God's love for the world through the birth of His Son. During this special time, we give thanks for the love, hope, and joy found in Jesus.



Each class played a part, singing Christmas favorites for us throughout the evening, as the Fifth Graders engaged the audience with stellar performances from King Herod and his entourage; the Shepherds; the Three Wise Men; Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, and more. The pageant is always scheduled during the last few school days before Christmas Break begins – it's the perfect way for all of us to begin our Christmas vacation.



We are so grateful to Delaney Fetzer, our very talented Pageant Director, and to both Michele Sidebottom and Debbie Peters, who have gifted their talents to Nativity's theatrical productions for several years.

Important Upcoming Dates ~

January 5 - Students Back to School!

January 12 - 4th Grade Student Fellowship

January 13-15 - NWEA Testing

January 16 - No School

January 19 - No School MLK Birthday

At Nativity, faith fills us. Love lives here. Nativity Stars are filled with the Holy Spirit! Join us to see how your child would spend his or her days here -- learning, praying, sharing, and laughing. We may be just the school for which you've been searching! Contact us at www.nativityschool.org, (703) 455-2300, or smurph@nativityschool.org.

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.

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

Fr. Sikora Council 7992 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.

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. Join today at <https://www.kofc.org/joinus>. Your dues will be **free for one year**: Be sure to enter our council #7992 and the code **RCANTER** when you register. Please email our Deputy Grand Knight, Vince Augelli, at dgk7992@nativityburke.org or the Grand Knight, Michael Bender at gk7992@nativityburke.org with any questions.

- Volunteer for an event!** Scroll down to view all events, https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992.
- Knights, are you receiving the Grand Knight Newsletter?** If not, go to: <https://NativityBurke.flocknote.com/NativityKnights> to sign up.
- Judy Jagielski:** Thursday Nights Ride to Nativity Support Group. **SUG is live!**
- Widow Support:** Thursday Nights Ride to Nativity Support Group.
- Prayer Requests:** Prayer requests will stay active for one month. Prayer update (health, location, contact, etc.) status is deeply appreciated. Send an updated request for continued support. <https://forms.gle/LiPCRmzfyRnYEU8s5>
- 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. For 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.
- 27-28 December:** Creation of the Holy Family. Hand out cards before service. **SUG is live!**
- 24 January:** The annual K of C Free Throw Challenge will be held on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026 from 6-9 PM. Six volunteers are needed to help. Please see **SUG** for details of work and time commitment.
- Widow Support:** Thursday Nights Ride to Nativity Support Group. **SUG is live!**
- Prayer Requests:** Prayer requests will stay active for one month. Prayer update (health, location, contact, etc.) status is deeply appreciated. Send an updated request for continued support. <https://forms.gle/LiPCRmzfyRnYEU8s5>
- Name Tags:** If you have not received your name tag, email our Warden, Dan Thomas, at warden7992@nativityburke.org.
- Name Tags:** If you have not received your name tag, email our Warden, Robert Myers, at warden7992@nativityburke.org.
- Nativity Ushers assist at collections:** Volunteer for your Mass! Volunteer on LinkTree to maintain a database of potential helpers!
- Sunday Mass Coffee and Cookies:** We are providing coffee and cookies following Sunday morning Masses. See 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 handyknightsfnativity@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. 4th Degree Assembly meets the second Tuesday of the month in the Nativity school cafeteria. 7:30 pm rosary, 7:45 pm business meeting followed by fellowship. If you are interested, please contact our Faithful Navigator Murray Rupert at fn2996@vakofc.org.

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

Fiesta. Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José Lc 2,22-40: Lo sencillo y su grandeza

Autor: Mons. Jesús Sanz Montes, ofm

Dios se ha hecho carne, ha querido acampar su vida divina en nuestro terruño humano asumiendo y haciendo suyas todas las cosas que contrae y conlleva nuestro diario vivir. Uno de ellos, y no el menos importante, es que nacemos, crecemos, vivimos en una familia. Sin familia el hombre se deshumaniza. Y por eso Dios, puesto a humanarse, no ha querido prescindir de esta realidad. Aquella Santa Familia, de María, José y Jesús, como aquellos primeros cristianos, tratándose como eran tratados por Dios, fueron capaces de transformar el mundo... sacando al Dios desconocido de los panteones para reconocerlo en lo cotidiano, en los días laborables, en lo familiar de una vida humana sin más.

Dios vino a enseñarnos lo mejor, y lo hizo desde el asombro humilde de María y José, llamados a acoger y acompañar lo extraordinario de Dios desde lo ordinario de su condición. Sin omitir ninguna de las obligaciones que como creyentes y como miembros del pueblo de Israel debían también ellos seguir: "cuando llegó el tiempo de la purificación de María, según la ley de Moisés, llevaron a Jesús a Jerusalén, para presentarlo al Señor". Y sin embargo, esa aparente cotidianeidad, esa sencilla vida ordinaria, escondía algo sublime, ocultaba sin pretenderlo a Alguien a quien tantos habían esperado en Israel. Dos ancianos, Simeón y Ana, habían esperado ese momento de ver al Mesías. Ellos dos eran como los representantes de una larga fila, inmensa, de todos los que antes de ellos vinieron y los que después de ellos hemos venido.

Nos los podemos imaginar temblones y llorosos por ver cumplido lo que toda una vida habían estado esperando. Simeón se puso a cantar un himno de alabanza porque estaba arrullando entre sus manos arrugadas y tiernas a quien era presentado como luz para todos los Pueblos. Y comprendió que la vida ya le había dado todo, y tan hermosamente, y tan puntualmente, y tan inmerecidamente... pero se lo había dado de verdad.

Todos nosotros tenemos la misma promesa del anciano Simeón, sea cual sea nuestra edad y circunstancia. Hemos nacido para ese encuentro con Alguien que se nos da como la luz que corresponde a tantas negruras y apagones, como la misericordia que corresponde con todas nuestras durezas, como la gracia que es capaz de abrazar nuestras soledades, la alegría que recoge en su odre festivo todas nuestras lágrimas laborables. Este encuentro es lo que en estos días y siempre llamamos Navidad. Dios nos ha invitado a su fiesta al hacernos nacer a su Hijo para nuestro bien, y al mostrarlo dentro de aquella bendita familia.

Sagrada Familia - B

Evangelio de la Misa: Lc 2,22-40

En el hogar de Nazaret

En esta fiesta de la Sagrada Familia se celebra y se honra a la familia formada por María, José y el Niño Jesús. No podía faltar esta celebración durante la Navidad. Jesús vino al mundo en una familia, y en ese ambiente se educó como hombre y se preparó para realizar su obra salvadora. En el hogar de Nazaret se miran todas las familias cristianas, para aprender y dignificar la propia familia.

El Evangelio de este día nos muestra a esta familia acudiendo al templo para "la purificación de María, y según la ley de Moisés llevaron a Jesús a Jerusalén para presentarlo al Señor". Igual que hacían todas las familias normales y devotas de entonces.

Gracias, Señor, por esa imagen tan aleccionadora de tus padres llevándote al templo. La normalidad de tu familia, cumpliendo las leyes justas del momento social, engrandecen la vida familiar, que se ajusta a tu santa ley y disfruta del ambiente familiar y se ve premiada con una prole feliz y generosa. Te pido, en primer lugar, Señor, por mi familia: padres, hijos y hermanos. Que en todos reine la bondad de corazón, la humildad y sencillez, y la generosidad para fomentar la verdadera alegría y felicidad en el hogar, y para dar amor y bienestar a todos los demás antes que a uno mismo. En esta misma línea pido por todas las familias del mundo: que sean hogares luminosos y alegres, escuelas de humanismo, iglesias domésticas, donde reine la paz, el amor y el temor de Dios.

Quiero también acompañarte hoy y ponerme al lado de tus padres, María y José, en la ceremonia de tu Presentación en el templo. Como un criado familiar quiero ofrecer mis servicios a tan augusta familia, y también observar las actitudes y comportamiento de aquel matrimonio santo. Pocos matrimonios han recibido tantos elogios y promesas optimistas y esperanzadoras, y a la vez tantos presagios de dolor y contradicción. El anciano Simeón rebosa de alegría porque ha visto y tocado al Salvador. Se puede ya morir en paz. Ha llegado la luz a las naciones y la gloria al pueblo de Israel. ¡Qué satisfacción escuchar estas palabras! Con la alegría de la profetisa Ana, quiero mostrar al mundo mi satisfacción por conocerte y tratarte en tu ambiente familiar.

Ayúdame, Señor, a hacer de mi familia la iglesia doméstica donde Tu reines, y todos, hijos, familiares, amigos y conocidos, encuentren un remanso de paz, alegría, bienestar y amor de Dios; y en especial los pobres y necesitados encuentren en mi casa acogida, calor y ayuda generosa.

Padre Segismundo Fernandez Rodríguez

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

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

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

Peter K. Cocolis, Jr.
DMD, MAGD
Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
5803 Rolling Road, #211, Springfield, VA 22152
smiles4va.com
703-912-3800
Quality Care
Friendly Atmosphere
Cutting-edge Technology

DESIGNPRO
REMODELING
Eric Colton Parishioner
Call or Text 571-268-1069
designproremodeling.com

EWTN.COM/RADIO
EWTN | Global Catholic Radio
TUNE IN

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

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

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

Merino's Maids LLC
House Cleaning
Maid service
• Excellent References
• 25 Continuous Years of Experience
• Weekly, Bi Weekly, Monthly
• Moving IN-OUT Cleaning Specialist
Sandramerino2145@gmail.com
Call for Free Estimate (703) 867-2145

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

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

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

PJI LAW
Wills, Trusts, & Probate
for Catholic Families
(703) 865-6100
Fairfax, VA
www.pjilaw.com | welcome@pjilaw.com

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

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

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

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

pdc kids first...
pediatric dental care
www.mypdcdentists.com
Dr. John Han (Parishioner)

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

myParish
The App for Catholic Life Every Day
www.myParishApp.com
Available for Apple and Android

Fairfax Office: 703.383.3434
9901 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax, VA 22030
Springfield Office: 703.992.7100
6120 Brandon Ave. Suite 114, Springfield, VA 22150

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

State Farm
Providing Insurance and Financial Services
Auto - Life - Home - Health - Business Insurance - Bank
6580 Backlick Road • Suite #207 • Springfield, VA 22150
Agent
Arceli Magpayo Brown
703-269-0673
arceli@arcelibrown.com • www.arcelibrown.com
Parishioner Over 10 Years & Over 30 Years Experience
So Much Experience
Licensed in VA - DC - MD

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

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