



Dear Parishioners,

How easy it is to read scripture or listen to it being read at Mass, as just another story written some two thousand years ago, with little or no relevance to today. In actuality, while the audience was different, the message in many instances is applicable today. Such is the Gospel for this weekend of John's account of the man born blind (John 9:1-40). At the time of Jesus' public ministry, blindness, or for that matter any serious handicap, was looked upon as the result of some serious sin or wrongdoing that the parents of the afflicted had committed. It was believed the sins of the parents were transferred to their offspring. Ridiculous thinking, but that was the common opinion back then. To completely understand the teachings of the Bible, it is necessary to comprehend just how people thought at the time the story was written.

In today's Gospel the young man asks Jesus: "*Lord, help me to see*". At times, all of us have to make the same request. While we may have 20-20 vision, we all from time to time need to check our eyesight. How easy it is to be blinded to the needs of others. How easy to overlook others, to pass them by. Many times I have heard widows or widowers tell me that people have stopped calling them or inviting them out since they've lost their loved one. How often we say "*I'll be in touch*" or "*I'll call you*", at the time of the funeral and fail to follow through. We become too busy. How often have you found yourself being envious of what another has and being blind to the blessings that you do have that oftentimes are not material? The most important blessings in my life are family, friendships, and the love they provide me. I have shared this story in my homilies and some of you may remember it. A friend called her neighbor to ask for help. Her husband had just died and the woman needed someone to be with her. The friend said that she would be over when she returned from Mass. Her eyes were open to obligation, but closed to the pain and suffering of her neighbor.

During Lent, we are encouraged to open our eyes to the needs of others. We are encouraged to share alms with the poor and less fortunate. Have we been blind to the pictures at the entrance to our Church of God's children in Haiti living in less than human conditions? How many times have we simply walked by the basket without putting a coin or a bill in it? Sometimes we can be blind to the needs of our family; the office or our work becomes our "*family*," thus avoiding time spent with our spouses or children and, perhaps, not meeting needs in our own home.

Yes, I think that today's Gospel has a definite relevant message for many of us: "*Lord help me to see*". Help me to see what is really important in life.

Help me not to lose sight of life's most important priorities. Like the blind man in today's Gospel, many of us need to ask for the gift of sight. Sometimes the lenses of our glasses need to be cleaned. Open your eyes, this week, to see the needs of others. Whenever we help another, *we* come away happier. Remember the words of the educator Marva Collins: "*Happiness is like jam. It's almost impossible to spread it around without getting some of it on yourself.*"

Have a nice week.



How Well Do You See?

How is your vision? Even with a corrective lens, is it 20/20? Do you see perfectly? Or just so-so! The Readings this week compare our vision with the vision of God and Jesus. God selects David as the anointed one, because He “looks” into David’s heart. In the Gospel, Jesus “sees” God’s glory shining forth in the blind man’s darkness. The message being given to us is that we need to look beyond the externals. We need to examine our spiritual blindness, to turn away from darkness and to live as “children of light”. We need to truly *see* Christ in the other person. We need to remove all that prevents us from being the “light of the world”. This is not easy, for the cataracts of prejudice, jealousy, pride, selfishness and indifference can slowly creep in and cloud our vision. Regular spiritual check-ups are an absolute necessity for ensuring good ongoing vision, enabling us to have a clear view of our final destiny – **Eternal Life!**



Monday, April 4

Jerry & Steve Valentine 7:30am Fr. Martin

Tuesday, April 5

Henry McArdle 7:30am Fr. Martin

Wednesday, April 6

Kathleen Niland 7:30am Fr. Martin

Thursday, April 7

Lawrence Russell 7:30am Fr. Korpi

Friday, April 8

Joyce Gross 7:30am Fr. Korpi

Saturday, April 9

Adele Verdino 9:00am Fr. Korpi
 Michael Tomasulo 5:00pm Fr. Wilson
 Spanish Mass 7:00pm Fr. Wilson

Sunday, April 10

Jack Donovan 7:30am Fr. Wilson
 Ronald Schomisch 9:00 am Fr. Wilson
 Elizabeth Butler 11:00am Fr. Korpi
 Andy Riester 12:45pm Fr. Korpi



2011 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA) Update

Thank you, parish! Once again your generosity shines as we have received BLA pledges and donations for slightly over \$400,000 exceeding our \$398,000 goal. Household participation has reached 19% or about 1 of 5 registered Nativity families. If you want to contribute, there's still time to join in and support the many programs that serve our parish and the diocese. Thanks to everyone for "placing our gifts at the service of others" during this Lenten season.

Parish Prayer List

Please remember, in your prayers, the sick of our Parish Community

Joanna Arnista; Sean Ballard; Sarah Buckley; Infant Theo Moreno Hines; Mary Hoffman; Lois Lambert; Peter McCourt; Gina Newsom; Barbara Olweiler; Pat Perry; Jack Sanders; Barb Shaffer; McKenna Smith; Daryl Spencer; Pam Wadsworth; John Wolfe

We also ask that you pray for our military men and women and their families. May God keep them safe and out of harms way.

THE LIGHT IS ON



During Lent confessions will be heard on **Wednesday** April 6th and 13th from **6:30 to 8:00pm**. A **Lenten Penance Service** will be held on Tuesday,

Nativity School OPEN HOUSE

9:00 to 11:00am April 5th and May 5th

Thank you advertisers!

Each week we will recognize one of our advertisers. Please support them, for without them our Bulletin would not be a success.

HOUSECLEANING

Maria Barreda - 703-856-5391

Thought for the Week:

We must move away from asking God to take care of the things that are breaking our hearts to praying about the things that are breaking god’s heart.

Margaret Gibb

WON Annual Easter Basket Drive

The Women of Nativity will be conducting our annual drive for Easter Baskets for local children in need. We hope that you will help us bring Easter joy by donating Easter candy, small toys, books, personal care items (for the pre-teen set), crayons, markers, activity and coloring books. We cannot accept stuffed animals, baskets, Easter grass or plastic eggs. The drive will be held at all the Masses of **April 9th and 10th**. This is the only weekend we will be collecting your gifts. Boxes will be located in the vestibule.



The Little Angel Gift Shop has an assortment of First Communion veils. All are handmade, with love, by Natasha Hines. First Communion is April 30th. Hurry and get yours while supplies last.



My Little Budget Book, an easy to follow step by step guide to personal budgets, were donated to the Little Angel Gift Shop. Stop by and see if the book will make your budgeting easier. A minimum donation of \$2.00 is asked for Starfish.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Those who practice abortion seem to have little problem justifying what they do. Sadly, we people of faith enable this destruction of human life by our unwillingness to stand up for our own core beliefs. Our silence is deafening ... and deadly! **Choose Life Today. Choose Life Tomorrow. Pray Always. We Must Do No Less.**



Through Palm Sunday, April 17, 2011 - 40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil at American Women Services, 8316 Arlington Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22031. Daily 7 AM - 7 PM. Can you pray for 1-2 hours and witness for Life? Details at <http://www.40daysforlife.com/fairfax/>. The Nativity Parish contact is Josh Reynolds, 703-470-8978, Josh.Reynolds.01@gmail.com

Are you suffering from an abortion experience? **PROJECT RACHEL** offers spiritual and psychological healing. Call 703-276-0373 (projectrachel@arlingtondiocese.org) for a referral for private, sensitive and confidential counseling and/or reconciliation. (Project Rachel is a post-abortion healing program open to all and sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Arlington).

24-Hour Crisis Pregnancy Hotline: 1-800-395-HELP (4357)
Project Rachel (healing after abortion): 1-888-456-HOPE (4673)

Pregnancy Resource Centers Phone Numbers:

Catholic Charities National: 1-800-CARE-002
 Catholic Charities Local: 703-425-0100
 A Woman's Choice: 703-538-4305
 Gabriel Project: 1-866-444-3553

Religious Education News

Congratulations to Nativity's 233 Confirmandi who received the graces of the sacrament of Confirmation! Welcome to the discipleship of Jesus as you walk with him to share the Good News.

Seventh Grade Students and Parents are to attend a very important information meeting on Wednesday, April 6, at 7:00pm in the church regarding Confirmation requirements.

First Communicants must attend the JESUS DAY RETREAT on Saturday, April 9, 8:00am-12:30pm in the parish hall. Banners are to be turned in at the retreat.

All Religious Education Program teachers and assistants are to attend the Spring Workshop and End-of-Year Information Meeting on Sunday, April 10, at 7:30pm in the parish hall.

Easter Holiday — all Religious Education classes are cancelled during Holy Week and Easter Week, April 17 through April 26. Classes resume on Sunday, May 1; Monday, May 2; and Tuesday, May 3.

Practice for First Communicants in the church, 6:00pm-7:30pm — Group I on Wednesday, April 27; Group II on Thursday, April 28.

Mass for First Communicants on Saturday, April 30: Group I at 9:00am; Group II at 11:30am.

Religious Education Program Graduation for Seniors on May 1, 6:00pm in the church.

Mother's Day, May 8 — Sunday classes only cancelled; classes will be held on Monday, May 9 and Tuesday, May 10.

Final Religious Education classes — Sunday, May 15; Monday, May 16; and Tuesday, May 17. Report cards will be distributed.

Student Registration for 2011-2012 is now open. Forms are available in the Religious Education Office, on the community board in the church vestibule, and at website: www.edu.nativityburke.org; on the Nativity CCD tab click on Student Registration.

Soups on!!! Our Lenten Soup Suppers are every Monday during Lent in the Parish Hall from 6:30pm-7:30pm. The **Last Soup Supper** will take place on **April 18th**. The cost is \$5 per person and \$20 per family. Please help support the teens of Nativity and spread the word!



FAIR TRADE CHOCOLATE Easter is almost here! Do you have Fair Trade chocolate to add to your baskets? Dark chocolate eggs and milk chocolate eggs with a speckled casing are available in the Gift Shop. For more information go to www.serrv.org. CRS and SERRV work together to promote Fair Trade and have many beautiful items in their online catalogs.



The **CYO** will be having a bake sale after all Masses on **April 9th and 10th**. Please help support the teens of Nativity as they prepare to serve the Lord at Catholic Heart Workcamp this summer. Thank you all for your continual prayers and generosity. The **CYO** is praying for you!

It's not too late to Carbon Fast

More than just giving up wasteful energy practices, a Carbon Fast links efficient use of energy to our spiritual renewal of Lent. Try some of these Carbon Fast ideas with your family.

“Give up” idling vehicles while at the ATM or while waiting for others. This increases energy efficiency and reduces harmful emissions. *Each time, reflect on how effectively we are using the gifts God has given us to help others.*

“Give up” using electric doors at stores, malls, and office buildings unless necessary. This saves electricity and keeps heated/air-conditioned air from literally being blown out the door. *Each time we open a door for ourselves, reflect on how many people, like those in Haiti, have no electricity at all.*

Take shorter showers or even turn off water when soaping. *Each time, reflect on how many people, like those in Haiti, live without fresh water for bathing and cleaning.*

Wash some laundry in cold water. *Each time, reflect on those who do not have clean clothes.*

Have a family night to discuss efficient ideas like keeping tires inflated. See more at tearfund.org keyword: Carbon Fast

A green thought from the Creation Care Ministry.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to deliver Meals on Wheels to senior citizens once a month, on weekdays from 10:30am to 1:00pm, in the West Springfield/Burke areas. For information please call Joan Opiela at 703-455-9652.

**THE WEEK AHEAD
IN OUR PARISH**

Sunday, April 3 ECHO Collection

2:00 pm.....Baptisms (CH)
2:00, 4:00 & 6:00 pm.....CCD Classes (S)

Monday, April 4

4:00 & 7:00 pm.....CCD (S)
6:30 to 7:30 pm.....Lenten Soup Supper (PH)
8:00 pm.....AA Meeting (APR)

Tuesday, April 5

9:30 am.....Bible Study (APR)
4:30 & 7:00 pm.....CCD (S)
7:00 pm.....Knights of Columbus (PH)
7:30 pm.....Legion of Mary (APR)

Wednesday, April 6

10:00 am.....Mom & Me (APR)
7:00 pm.....Hispanic Prayer Group (SC)
7:00 pm.....ESL (Room 5)
7:00 pm.....RCIA (PH)
7:00 pm.....RCIC (Room 4,6)
7:00 pm.....JustFaith (GR)
7:30 pm.....Youth Choir Practice (Room 2)
7:30 pm.....Hispanic Baptism Class (Room 8)

Thursday, April 7

9:30 am.....Craft Group (APR)
7:00 pm.....Spanish Class (Room 2)
7:00 pm.....ESL (Room 5)
7:30 pm.....Prayer Group (APR, Room 7,8,SL,SC)
7:30 pm.....Adult Choir Practice (CH)
7:30 pm.....Grief Support (S)

Friday, April 8

7:30 pm.....Stations of the Cross (CH)
8:15 pm.....Hispanic Stations of the Cross (CH)

Saturday, April 9 WON Easter Basket Collection (Rm. 6)

8:00 am.....Jesus Day Retreat (PH)
10:00 am.....Dog Obedience Class (PL)
10:00 am.....ESL (Rooms 5, 6, 7, 8)
5:00 pm.....Hispanic CYO (Room 4)
5:00 pm.....Hispanic CCD (S)

PRAY THE ROSARY FOR WORLD PEACE



Parish Penance Services

April 6 St Bernadette 7:30 PM
April 7 St. Andrew the Apostle 7:30PM
April 12 Nativity 7:30 PM
April 14 St. Leo 7:30PM
April 19 All Saints 6:30 – 8:30 PM



Annual Multi-Car Raffle Thank you to those who have already returned their sold tickets. There is still plenty of time to enter the raffle, but don't wait to the last minute.

Remember each \$5.00 ticket is a chance to win all five 2011 vehicles from Koons of Manassas (Honda Civic Hybrid, Honda Accord, GMC Sierra Truck, Honda CRV sport utility and Honda Odyssey Van) plus up to \$20,000 in cash. Thank you for your continued, generous support. If you have any questions or need more tickets to sell, please contact Sam Morthland at 703-455-2816.

K of C Blood Drive. The next K of C blood drive is scheduled for Sat, Apr 16, 2011, from 7AM to Noon, in St. Raymond's Parish Hall. Donors can make a "life saving appointment" by calling John Landy at 703-250-1492 or sending an email to navvy8@yahoo.com. Appointment can also be taken after each Mass 9/10 April.

Knights of Columbus Frenchy Cyr Memorial Scholarships
Last year, Nativity's Knights of Columbus Council 7992 awarded six Cyr Memorial scholarships for Catholic secondary school tuition (grades 9-12), totaling \$6000. Scholarships were awarded to Kathleen Caler (Ireton HS), Richard Golinowski and Abigail Prince (Paul VI HS), and Emily Sun, Megan Golinowski and Rachel Hoppe (Nativity School). This year at least five scholarships, each for \$1000, will be awarded. One scholarship will be awarded to the eight-grade student scoring the highest; all entrants, including eight-grade students, will compete for the remaining scholarships. Entrants must be registered parishioners at Nativity, or a son or daughter of an active member of Council 7992. Submissions must be post marked no later than midnight, Friday, April 29, 2011. Application forms are available in the Church office, at Nativity School, from guidance counselors at Bishop Ireton, John Paul the Great, and Paul VI high schools, or from Tony Rozga. Questions, call Tony Rozga, 440-8390.

RELIGIOUS EMBLEMS FOR SCOUTS

All **Cub Scouts** and **Girl Scouts** working towards religious emblems this year must have their booklets turned in by April 20th. The completed booklets should be delivered to 5832 Parakeet Drive in Burke, sent via backpack mail (2nd or 5th grade) at Nativity



School, or dropped off at the Girl Scout box in the parish office (Attn: Becky Chaves). Please make sure the booklets are labeled with the name of the scout and troop or pack number and a phone number in case there are any questions. Medals will be ordered for the scouts after the parish review is completed. The Scout Recognition Mass will be held on June 12, 2011 at the 9 AM Mass. Please call Becky Chaves at 703-425-4965 if you have any questions.

High School and Jr. ViBe:

The next **ViBe/Jr. ViBe** meeting will be Mafia Madness on April 3rd from 6:30-8:30pm in the APR. See you there! There will be no Jr. **ViBe/ViBe** meeting on April 10th.

Stations of the Cross schedule is as follows: Practices will be from 3:30pm-6pm in the Church on April 3rd and 10th. The performance will be on April 15th. If you are interested in participating please contact Mike Giardina by email or phone. Email: Mike.Giardina@mwa.com Phone: 703-922-2789

The next Workcamp meeting is on April 12th from 7:00-8:00pm in the Parish Hall.

During this Lent I hope that each of you are growing closer to Christ and are able to unite yourselves with His suffering and find hope in His resurrection. Know that I am praying for each and every one of you. "Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer." Romans 12:12

The **Nativity ESL** (English as a Second Language) Program for Spanish-Speakers is looking for a volunteer to teach our new course in basic computing for non-English speakers, scheduled to begin next September. Enrollment will be limited to seven students, who will be qualified at the advanced level in English. Day and time for the class are yet to be determined, and will be arranged to fit the teacher's schedule. The course will be taught in nativity School, using laptops generously loaned us by the school. Knowledge of Spanish is not necessary to teach this course. For further details, please contact Bob Clark at 703-323-6717.

Spring Getaway for Women

Treat yourself to **Come Into the Garden: A Vacation Retreat for Catholic Women on "The Song of Songs"**, an enchanting weekend at Carter Hall, an elegant 18th Century estate on 80 gorgeous acres near Winchester, VA. Drink in love and beauty, be pampered, and replenished body and soul as our Lord sings His song of Love to your heart. Presented by Certified Catholic Life Coach, Liz Post, with Mass and Healing Service by Father Stefan Starzynski. **May 20-22, 2011. Fills quickly, limit 22. Register by April 18.** Contact Liz Post at 703-425-9213 or lizpost1@verizon.net.



OPERATION STARFISH® NEWS

www.operation-starfish.org

“Nativity Villages” – What are they?

In 1998, Food For The Poor, Inc. built 27 houses in Canapé Vert, near Port-au-Prince, Haiti, with the proceeds of Nativity’s first Lenten Starfish campaign. The following year, we outfitted a mobile medical van to provide health care in rural areas of Haiti. In 2000, we re-built the Little Children of Jesus Orphanage after a fire. Then we began to develop the “Nativity Village” concept.

Starting with a group of 250 families on an abandoned sugar cane plantation in Merger, near Port-au-Prince, we enlisted the local parish priest, Food For The Poor staff and community leaders to identify needs and priorities. First we tackled shelter, clean water and sanitation. Then we built a school and arranged access to a nearby clinic. Finally we developed a vocational training program and chicken farm business. With basic needs met and a revenue stream in place, the Nativity Village at Merger community had achieved a measure of self-sufficiency.

We then moved on to our next project, Nativity Village at Prolonge, near Cap-Haitien. We followed the same model – a local priest, community input, and Food For The Poor expertise. We met basic housing, water and sanitation needs first, then moved into education (built a school) and health care (established the St. Anthony Health Center). Finally we developed small businesses and vocational training to create jobs and revenue.

Today, Operation Starfish® has developed 6 Nativity Villages, with a 7th being funded in 2011. Each village has the same general components, with the same goal of aid and self-sufficiency. We maintain ties with all of them. For example, Fr. Printemps at Nativity Village at Merger wanted to create a community marching band after the earthquake to improve morale and provide healthy activity for teenagers. Nativity funded the instruments and uniforms and we look forward to a musical welcome on our next visit.

There are over 800 families living in our Nativity Villages in Haiti. They are living healthier, more productive lives. They now have hope for a better future. And we hope that a new leadership for Haiti will arise from our Nativity Villages.

A Penny A Gallon For Starfish

In April, Cardinal Plaza Shell will automatically donate 1 penny to Operation Starfish® for **EVERY** gallon of gas pumped. Pumping gas can build a house for a family in Haiti. CP Shell will also donate 5% of any auto repairs to Operation Starfish® throughout 2011. Just tell the service desk you’re with Nativity Church. Cardinal Plaza Shell is located at the corner of Old Keene Mill Rd. and Rolling Rd. in Springfield. Call 703-451-6232.

High Tea Anyone?

On Sunday, April 17, Global Woman (<http://www.myglobalwoman.com/>) will host a high tea at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Capitol Hill, Washington, DC. Proceeds will go towards construction of houses in Nativity Village at Chastenoye and towards support of the Little Children of Jesus Home, a Food For The Poor facility caring for handicapped orphans. Nativity parishioners visited Little Children of Jesus on our last mission trip to Haiti. For more information, contact Lina Frank at 571-436-3171, or lfrank@globalwoman-magazine.com.

For more information on Nativity’s Operation Starfish®, contact Jim McDaniel at seastar2004@msn.com, or call the Church office.

“I came for the cookies, but I found love and Jesus.”

Be a part of the flame that draws souls to Christ. Bake cookies for the women’s KAIROS prison retreat scheduled for this Fall at Fluvanna Women’s Prison beginning April 6, 2011. This gift of love requires a lot of cookies – about 4,000 dozen for each retreat. Each team member is responsible for bringing 100 dozen home made cookies for the weekend.

The types of cookies needed are: Oatmeal, Peanut Butter, Sugar, Cinnamon, Ginger, Molasses, Chocolate, and Chocolate Chip. Cookies should be 2 inches in diameter and not more than 1/2 inch thick. No icing, sugar, sprinkles or any other type of coating on the outside. No nuts, raisins, fruits, or M&M’s on the inside.



Packing the Cookies

Bag thoroughly cooled cookies in a **Quart-Sized Zip Lock bag, 12 to a bag**. Please use **only** a quart-Sized Zip Lock Bag. If you fail to cool your cookies before bagging them, they will stick together and crumble and may not be admitted into the prison. Label each bag with the type of cookie. Freeze all cookies if not delivering within 3 days of the start of the retreat.

For recipes and information about KAIROS, visit the KAIROS Buckingham web site - <http://kairos-bkcc.org/sites/default/files/documents/KairosCookiesBrochure35.pdf> or call Diane Bayne 703-763-7230.

Please place your cookies in the kitchen opposite the church office or give them to a staff member. **Final pickup for the Fluvanna weekend is April 5.**

Global Youth Service Day is an annual campaign that mobilizes millions of children and youth around the world to improve their communities through community service. Fairfax County families and youth are encouraged to participate on Saturday, April 16. For more information or to sign up please visit Volunteer Fairfax at: <http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/globalyouthserviceday.php>

NINE-DAY PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND AND ROME

with Fr. Chris Vacarro (Holy Spirit Parish) from June 23rd to July 1st, 2011. The pilgrimage begins in Poland and ends in Rome and traces the footsteps of John Paul II from Wadowice, his birthplace, to Krakow, where he was Archbishop, to Rome where he served as Pope for almost 27 years. In Poland we will also visit Warsaw and the site of Pope John Paul's famous 1979 speech on his first trip home after becoming pope, Czestochowa, the great pilgrimage site and home of the Black Madonna, the Shrine of the Divine Mercy where St. Faustina lived and had her apparitions of Christ, the Calvary shrine of Kalwaria and the cell of St. Maximilian Kolbe at Auschwitz. Brochures and reservation forms are available in Holy Spirit Parish Center. Additional information can be found at the website jmitours.com. If you have any questions, call JMJ Tours at 703-425-5400.

Catholic Charities' St. Margaret of Cortona Transitional Residences in Woodbridge, VA, is currently looking for the following items in gently used condition for our new families: night stands, dressers, end tables, couches, loveseats, small dining tables and chairs, book shelves, television stands, toddler beds, single bed frames, towels, twin bed sheets, comforters and blankets, pillows, pots and pans, kitchen utensils, coffee pots, toasters, etc. If you are able to donate and arrange delivery of any of these items, please call Paula Hummel at 703-910-4845 or e-mail at phummel@ccda.net

CAC of Washington, DC, an organization of single Catholics in the Greater Washington area, is sponsoring a Motown Dance for Singles on Saturday, April 16 from 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall on 9707 Rosensteel Avenue in Silver Spring, Maryland. Includes a Swing/ChaCha lesson from 8:30-9:30. Music by DJ.

Admission is \$20. Ages 21 and up. For more information about this and other events, visit www.dcsinglecatholicpro.org or call Anne at 301-218-2772

“One who is content with what he has, and who accepts the fact that he inevitably misses very much in life, is far better off than one who has much more but who worries about all he may be missing. For we cannot make the best of what we are, if our hearts are always divided between what we are and what we are not.”

Thomas Merton

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS**Palm Sunday Family Event at JP the Great**

Celebrate Palm Sunday and help area youth attend World Youth Day by joining us for Hosanna Day on Palm Sunday, April 17, from 12pm – 3:00pm. A fun and faith-filled afternoon that includes lunch, games, a dramatic presentation of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, an Easter egg hunt, and more! Tickets are \$5/per person or \$20/family. Please RSVP:

Hosannaday@jpthegreat.org.

Those *Happy Days* are here again! Paul VI Catholic High School's PVI Players is proudly presenting the brand new musical *Happy Days* based on the old TV show. Return with us to the days of Fonzie, Ritchie, Mr. and Mrs. C., greasers, sock hops, and the fabulous Pinky Tuscadero for a sparkling evening of comedy, music, and old friends.

Performances are April 15 and 16 at 7:30, and April 17 at 2:00. Tickets are \$10 for students and seniors, and \$15 for adults. For more information email PVIProducers@yahoo.com or call 703.352.0925 ex 371 for more information. Those *Happy Days* are yours and mine, and you want to be there when they rock and roll again!

PVI SUMMER CHEERLEADING CLINIC

Paul VI Catholic High School will be hosting a fun and exciting cheerleading experience from July 13-15 from 10-4 PM for only \$125 per student. Campers will work on motions, jumps, cheers, chants, dances, stunts and tumbling. Come join the fun and learn a lot! Visit www.paulvi.net/camps or email pvipanthers@gmail.com for more information

The Men's Vocation Discernment Retreat will take place at San Damiano Spirituality Center at Whitepost, Va., from 7 p.m. on Friday, April 15 until 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 17. Single men 17-40 who are interested in priesthood or religious life are invited to call the Office of Vocations at (703) 841-2514 to make a reservation.

Actividades de la Comunidad Hispana

Iglesia de la Natividad 6400 Nativity Lane
Burke, VA 22015
Teléfono 703-455-2400
Rev. Cedric Wilson

SANTA MISA EN ESPAÑOL:

Todos los sábados a las 7:00pm

CONFESIONES: Los sábados antes de la Santa Misa de
6:15pm a 6:55pm

Catequesis Para niños y Jóvenes: Sábados de 5:00pm a 6:45pm
Informes: 703-455-2400, ext 116
Sr. Ponciano 202-262-6659

Catequesis Para niños y Jóvenes: Inscripciones para el año
escolar septiembre 2010 a mayo 2011 están abiertas.

Catequesis para adultos: Bautismo, Comunión, y Confirmación,
Sábados de 5:15pm a 6:15pm
Contacto: Tito Pinto 703-912-9220

Charla para el Bautismo: Primer Miércoles del mes 7:30pm,
aula 8

Sacramento del Bautismo: Tercer Sábado del mes. 1:30pm
Contacto: Diacono Pardo 703-455-2400

Grupo de Oración: Miércoles 7:00pm a 9:00pm.
Están todos invitados. Marco Camacho 703-968-5585

Grupo de Liderazgo Juvenil reuniones:
Domingo 11:00am-1:00pm aula 5 Contacto: Nelson Pineda 571-
234-3664

Reunión del Grupo de los Jóvenes Sábados: a partir de las
5:00pm aula 4, contacto: Juan Carlos Chávez 703-473-6941

Solidaridad Cristiana: Mayor información llamar Mirian
Ponciano 703-913-5494.

Para mas información: María Guevara 703-444-5716

Anuncios para el boletín: debe ser presentado por escrito el
viernes a las 9 de la mañana (10 días antes de su publicación).

Pueden enviar su información electrónico a
nativitybulletin@aol.com

Charlas de Convalidación para recibir el Sacramento del
Matrimonio: cada otro domingo del mes 9:00am – 10:45am aula
4. Contacto: Antonio y Maritza Di Paolo 703-493-8719

Reunión de Matrimonios: domingo 9:00am – 11:00am aula 5.
Contacto: Segundo y María Guevara 703-444-5716

EL DIACONO JOSE PARDO OFRECERE' SERVICIOS PASTORALES EN:

CONSEJERIA PERSONAL
CONSEJERIA MATRIMONIAL
ANULACION DE MATRIMONIO
DIAS: LUNES Y JUEVES DE 1 A 4 PM
703.455.2400 703.998.5161

LA LUZ ESTA ENCENDIDA PARA TI !! CELEBRA EL SACRAMENTO DE LA RECONCILIACION

Es una iniciativa diocesana dirigida a todas los catolicos para poner a su disposicion el Sacramento de Reconciliacion. La Confesion es una maravillosa oportunidad para poner a un lado el camino pecaminoso y poder acercarnos a nuestro Senor.

Las Confesiones se haran cada miercoles durante la Cuaresma, de 6:30-8:00pm en todas las iglesias Catolicas de la Arlington y la Arquidiocesis de Washington. (Adicionalmente a la horario normal de confesion ante la Misa, los sabados, 6:15-6:55pm

Pensamientos de santos, consagrados y escritores sobre el rosario

"No encuentro otro medio más poderoso para atraer sobre nosotros el Reino de Dios, la Sabiduría, que unir a la oración vocal la oración mental, rezando el Santo Rosario y meditando sus misterios".

San Luis María Grignon de Montfort

"La oración es la única fuente posible de toda comprensión. ¿El Rosario? ¡Admirable creación! ¿Rezar meditando los misterios? Este es el camino".

Miguel de

"El Rosario invita a nuestros dedos, a nuestros labios y a nuestro corazón a entonar una gran sinfonía de súplica y oración, y por estos motivos es la plegaria más grandiosa que jamás haya compuesto el hombre El Rosario es un sitio de encuentro de los no instruidos y de los sabios; es la escuela donde el amor sencillo se acrecienta en conocimientos y donde los sabios aumentan su amor".

Monseñor Fulton J. Sheen

"El Padre Pío tenía Rosarios en todas partes, bajo la almohada, en la mesilla de noche, en los bolsillos, dondequiera... Era el religioso del rosario. Consideraba el Rosario como su arma predilecta contra toda clase de enemigos. En alguna ocasión llegó a afirmar: <quisiera que los días tuvieran 48 horas para poder redoblar los rosarios>. Cuando le preguntaban por su herencia espiritual, San Pío no dudaba en afirmar que era el Rosario: "¡Amad a la Virgen y hacédla amar. Recitad siempre el Rosario!"

San Pío de Pietrelcina

Mensaje del Santo Padre para la Cuaresma 2011

Con Cristo sois sepultados en el Bautismo, con él también habéis resucitado (cf. Col 2,12)

Queridos hermanos y hermanas:

La Cuaresma, que nos lleva a la celebración de la Santa Pascua, es para la Iglesia un tiempo litúrgico muy valioso e importante, con vistas al cual me alegra dirigiros unas palabras específicas para que lo vivamos con el debido compromiso. La Comunidad eclesial, asidua en la oración y en la caridad operosa, mientras mira hacia el encuentro definitivo con su Esposo en la Pascua eterna, intensifica su camino de purificación en el espíritu, para obtener con más abundancia del Misterio de la redención la vida nueva en Cristo Señor (cf. Prefacio I de Cuaresma).



1. Esta misma vida ya se nos transmitió el día del Bautismo, cuando «al participar de la muerte y resurrección de Cristo» comenzó para nosotros «la aventura gozosa y entusiasmante del discípulo» ([Homilía en la fiesta del Bautismo del Señor, 10 de enero de 2010](#)). San Pablo, en sus Cartas, insiste repetidamente en la comunión singular con el Hijo de Dios que se realiza en este lavacro. El hecho de que en la mayoría de los casos el Bautismo se reciba en la infancia pone de relieve que se trata de un don de Dios: nadie merece la vida eterna con sus fuerzas. La misericordia de Dios, que borra el pecado y permite vivir en la propia existencia «los mismos sentimientos que Cristo Jesús» (Flp 2, 5) se comunica al hombre gratuitamente.

El Apóstol de los gentiles, en la Carta a los Filipenses, expresa el sentido de la transformación que tiene lugar al participar en la muerte y resurrección de Cristo, indicando su meta: que yo pueda «conocerle a él, el poder de su resurrección y la comunión en sus padecimientos hasta hacerme semejante a él en su muerte, tratando de llegar a la resurrección de entre los muertos» (Flp 3, 10-11). El Bautismo, por tanto, no es un rito del pasado sino el encuentro con Cristo que conforma toda la existencia del bautizado, le da la vida divina y lo llama a una conversión sincera, iniciada y sostenida por la Gracia, que lo lleve a alcanzar la talla adulta de Cristo.

Un nexo particular vincula al Bautismo con la Cuaresma como momento favorable para experimentar la Gracia que salva. Los Padres del Concilio Vaticano II exhortaron a todos los Pastores de la Iglesia a utilizar «con mayor abundancia los elementos bautismales propios de la liturgia cuaresmal» ([Sacrosanctum Concilium, 109](#)). En efecto, desde siempre, la Iglesia asocia la Vigilia Pascual a la celebración del Bautismo: en este Sacramento se realiza el gran misterio por el cual el hombre muere al pecado, participa de la vida nueva en Jesucristo Resucitado y recibe el mismo espíritu de Dios que resucitó a Jesús de entre los muertos (cf. Rm 8, 11). Este don gratuito debe ser reavivado en cada uno de nosotros y la Cuaresma nos ofrece un recorrido análogo al catecumenado, que para los cristianos de la Iglesia antigua, así como para los catecúmenos de hoy, es una escuela insustituible de fe y de vida cristiana: viven realmente el Bautismo como un acto decisivo para toda su existencia.

2. Para emprender seriamente el camino hacia la Pascua y prepararnos a celebrar la Resurrección del Señor -la fiesta más gozosa y solemne de todo el Año litúrgico-, ¿qué puede haber de más adecuado que dejarnos guiar por la Palabra de Dios? Por esto la Iglesia, en los textos evangélicos de los domingos de Cuaresma, nos guía a un encuentro especialmente intenso con el Señor, haciéndonos recorrer las etapas del camino de la iniciación cristiana: para los catecúmenos, en la perspectiva de recibir el Sacramento del renacimiento, y para quien está bautizado, con vistas a nuevos y decisivos pasos en el seguimiento de Cristo y en la entrega más plena a él.

El primer domingo del itinerario cuaresmal subraya nuestra condición de hombre en esta tierra. La batalla victoriosa contra las tentaciones, que da inicio a la misión de Jesús, es una invitación a tomar conciencia de la propia fragilidad para acoger la Gracia que libera del pecado e infunde nueva fuerza en Cristo, camino, verdad y vida (cf. *Ordo Initiationis Christianae Adultorum*, n. 25). Es una llamada decidida a recordar que la fe cristiana implica, siguiendo el ejemplo de Jesús y en unión con él, una lucha «contra los Dominadores de este mundo tenebroso» (Ef 6, 12), en el cual el diablo actúa y no se cansa, tampoco hoy, de tentar al hombre que quiere acercarse al Señor: Cristo sale victorioso, para abrir también nuestro corazón a la esperanza y guiarnos a vencer las seducciones del mal.

El Evangelio de la Transfiguración del Señor pone delante de nuestros ojos la gloria de Cristo, que anticipa la resurrección y que anuncia la divinización del hombre. La comunidad cristiana toma conciencia de que es llevada, como los Apóstoles Pedro, Santiago y Juan «aparte, a un monte alto» (Mt 17, 1), para acoger nuevamente en Cristo, como hijos en el Hijo, el don de la gracia de Dios: «Este es mi Hijo amado, en quien me complazco; escuchadle» (v. 5). Es la invitación a alejarse del ruido de la vida diaria para sumergirse en la presencia de Dios: él quiere transmitirnos, cada día, una palabra que penetra en las profundidades de nuestro espíritu, donde discierne el bien y el mal (cf. Hb 4, 12) y fortalece la voluntad de seguir al Señor.