



Dear Parishioners,

Here is a touching story of Sister Helen, a Franciscan nun, at St. Mary's Catholic School in Morris, Minnesota. The story is reported to be true. Sister was asked to write an article on education for Proteus magazine. The story was later printed in Reader's Digest.

One day Sister Helen asked her students to list the names of the other students in the room on two sheets of paper, leaving a space between each name. Then she told them to think of the nicest thing they could say about each of their classmates and write it down. It took the remainder of the class period to finish their assignment, and as the students left the room, each one handed in the papers. That Saturday, the teacher wrote down the name of each student on a separate sheet of paper, and listed what everyone else had said about that individual.

On Monday, Sister gave each student their list. Before long, the entire class was smiling. "Really?" she heard whispered. "I never knew that I meant anything to anyone!" and, "I didn't know others liked me so much." were most of the comments. No one ever mentioned those papers in class again. She never knew if they discussed them after class or with their parents, but it didn't matter. The exercise had accomplished its purpose. The students were happy with themselves and one another.

That group of students moved on. Several years later, one of the students was killed in Vietnam and his teacher attended the funeral of that special student.

Sister Helen had never seen a serviceman in a military coffin before. Her former student looked so handsome, so mature. The church was packed with his friends. One by one those who loved him took a last walk by the coffin. The teacher was the last one to bless the coffin. As she stood there, one of the soldiers who acted as pallbearer came up to her. "Were you Mark's math teacher?" he asked. She nodded: "yes." Then he said: "Mark talked about you a lot." After the funeral, most of Mark's former classmates went together to a luncheon. Mark's mother and father were there, obviously waiting to speak with his teacher. "We want to show you something," his father said, taking a wallet out of his pocket. "They found this on Mark when he was killed. We thought you might recognize it." Opening the billfold, he carefully removed two worn pieces of notebook paper that had obviously been taped, folded and refolded many times. The teacher knew without looking that the papers were the ones on which she had listed all the good things each of Mark's classmates had said about him. "Thank you so much for doing that," Mark's mother said. "As you can see, Mark treasured it." All of Mark's former classmates started to gather around. Charlie smiled rather sheepishly and said, "I still have my list. It's in the top drawer of my desk at home." Chuck's wife said, "Chuck asked me to put his in our wedding album." "I have mine too," Marilyn said. "It's in my diary." Then Vicki, another classmate, reached into her pocketbook, took out her wallet and showed her worn and frazzled list to the group. "I carry this with me at all times," Vicki said and without batting an eyelash, she continued: "I think we all saved our lists." That's when the teacher finally sat down and cried. She cried for Mark and for all his friends who would never see him again.

The density of people in society is so thick that we forget that life will end one day. And we don't know when that one day will be. So please, tell the people you love and care for, that they are special and important. Tell them, before it is too late.

My Grandmother had a saying that I never forgot: "Give me my flowers while I'm living". I've tried to follow

that teaching in my ministry. If you know anyone who may need some affirmation or just a call from you to cheer them up, do it now. Those flowers are much more fragrant and long lasting than those we put in a vase.

Have a nice week!




Monday, September 6

Elizabeth Koscielniak.....9:00am - Fr. Wilson

Tuesday, September 7

Irene Crosby.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Wednesday, September 8

Margarita Legaspi Balitona.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Thursday, September 9

John Dezzutti.....7:30am - Fr. Korpi

Friday, September 10

Mr. McDonnell.....7:30am - Fr. Korpi

Saturday, September 11

Jeanne & Mike Merrill.....9:00am - Fr. Korpi

Rita Homberg.....5:00pm - Fr. Martin

Spanish Mass.....7:00pm - Fr. Wilson

Sunday, September 12

Judy Kuntz.....7:30am -Fr. Korpi

Parishioners.....9:00am - Fr. Martin

Helen Popek.....11:00am - Fr. Korpi

Maureen Nolan.....12:45pm - Fr. Wilson

The Religious Education Program continues to have an **URGENT NEED** for teachers and assistant teachers. **Call 703-455-0372 to volunteer, send an email to nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org, or simply drop by the Religious Education Office.**



Students must be enrolled in the Religious Education Program by September 7, to attend classes during the first week on September 19, 20, and 21.

Students enrolled after September 7, begin classes on September 26, 27, and 28.

All Religious Education Program teachers and assistants should attend the Orientation/Workshop on Sunday, September 12, at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall. This is a very important information meeting regarding the 2010-2011 school year.

All Religious Education Program Volunteers will be commissioned at Nativity's 9:00am Mass on Catechetical Sunday, September 19.

Student Registration forms should be turned in to the Religious Education Office along with payment and the student's baptismal certificate (unless it was previously submitted). Forms are available in the Religious Education Office, on the community board in the church vestibule, or at www.edu.nativityburke.org; on the Nativity CCD tab click on Student Registration.



In the month of August we joyfully welcomed into the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Lucas Alonso Guevara, Santiago Agustin Guevara, Anthony Gabriel Chavez, Angel Giancarlo Chavez, Daniel Pakraig Foley, Owen Christopher Baker, Caroline Grace Chesser, Donovan Michael McKinley, Sofia Isabella Blakely, Gabriel Charles Michael Sisk, Erika Lopez-Salazar, Alexander Lopez-Salazar, Natalie Rose Lineberry, AnaLucia Ordoñez, Santiago Alonso Lopez-Carcelen, Andre Alonso Sanchez, William Patrick Dube, Jonathan Campbell Bailey, Tsakane Maria Uamusse, Miles Robert Livingston,

PRAY THE ROSARY FOR PEACE

Celebrating a Silver or Golden Wedding Anniversary this Year?

Were you married in 1960 or 1985? Then join Bishop Loverde for the 2010 Marriage Jubilee Mass to be celebrated on **Sunday, October 24 at 2:30 p.m.** at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More. Contact the parish office to register no later than September 24.



Altar Flowers



In Memory of my Father, Joseph Germaine from Mary Lockhart and Members of the Hynes and Redican Families from Ned and Eleanor Redican

Thought for the Week

“Good friends are like angels - you don't have to see them to know they are there.”

Dona Cooper, Stillwater, OK

JustFaith/JustMatters

Do you find your life is rapidly moving from one year to the next and you have little time to reflect on what it means to live the gospel as Jesus asks us to do? Consider participating in an eight week JustMatters program called Crossing Borders: Migration, Theology, and the Human Journey. This program provides participants an opportunity to find common ground and to discover more about themselves, God and the millions of people who are on the move in every part of the world. The only cost will be for books used in the program.

This eight week program will be offered at St. James Church, 830 W. Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046, beginning September 28 at 7:00 PM. For more information or to register contact Arlene Griff at 703-533-1841.

Mark your calendars! The new **RCIA** class begins Wednesday, September 15, 2010, and will generally be held every Wednesday from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall through early June 2011, excepting holidays. In addition, beginning in Advent and up until Holy Week there will be "break out" sessions at the Sunday 9:00 am Mass to discuss the Scripture and homily.

RCIA, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, is a pilgrimage of faith.

RCIA is the Catholic Church's way of forming new disciples of Jesus Christ, and welcoming new members into the Church at the Easter Vigil, April 23, 2011.

Nativity's **RCIA** program involves instruction, prayer, group discussion and special spiritual events designed to prepare, those seeking to enter the Church. RCIA is open to those --

- * Who have not been baptized
- * Christians baptized into another faith (Presbyterian, Baptist, etc.)
- * Adults baptized Catholic who have not been confirmed
- * Those who want to learn more about the Catholic faith, including adult Catholics.

Come and meet Jesus Christ and discover who God made you to be!

For further information, call the Church office or e-mail Ron Riggins at rjriggins@cox.net.

PRAYER SHAWL MEETING....The next daytime meeting will take place in the APR on Monday, September 13th at 9:30am. The evening meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 15th at 7:00pm in the APR. Come and bring your project to work on or learn how to make a prayer shawl for someone who is seriously ill. For more information call Toni Rausch, 703-455-3260.



PRO-LIFE CORNER

The first thing that has to be noted when examining the relationship between abortion and child abuse is that abortion is child abuse. Dismembering a born child would certainly be considered among the worst possible forms of abuse. Medical textbooks and court testimonies use the very same word, "dismemberment," to describe what is done to a baby by abortion. Abortion is the ultimate child abuse



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).

Pro-Life Rosary - A prayerful, peaceful and public gathering of friends and neighbors who pray the rosary for one hour takes place on Saturdays at 10:00 AM on Rolling Road across from Kings Park SC Giant Food. Please call Jane Hamilton, 703-646-5051, for more info.

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

2010 White House Ornament Sale

This is a favorite keepsake, that features the Presidency of William McKinley. This years ornament is very pretty and Patriotic! The cost is \$20.00 for each ornament—we accept checks or cash only.

Checks are to be made out to Church of Nativity.

The Women of Nativity will be available for sales September 11-12-18-19 between the hours of 8AM-1PM on Sunday and Saturday before and after 5PM mass. Proceeds allow the Women of Nativity to assist local families and charities, as well as victims of natural disasters, in the name of "Nativity". We look forward to seeing you in front of the Church and as always we appreciate your support of our only fundraiser of the year!



JustFaith Questions

During Mass each week we say the Lord’s Prayer, share a sign of peace and are sent forth at the end of Mass to love and serve God. Are we really at peace with our brothers and sisters at home and around the world or has this become a superficial prayer and gesture? Do we really go forth to love and to serve God? If you are looking for ways to make these prayers more meaningful and to live them more fully, then check out the **JustFaith** program.

JustFaith offers an intensive study of the Christian’s call to address the needs of the world. The thirty-week program includes weekly meetings, regular reading, retreats and immersion experiences. The program runs from mid-September to May. Information packets are available on the top shelf of the table between the doors on the left as you exit the lobby and on the “Community Outreach” page of the parish website:

<http://www.nativityburke.org/parish/CommunityOutreach.php>

**THE WEEK AHEAD
IN OUR PARISH**

Monday, September 6 LABOR DAY

8:00 pm.....AA Meeting (APR)

Wednesday, September 8

10:00 am.....Mom & Me (APR)
7:00 pm.....Hispanic Prayer Group (SC)
7:00 pm.....ESL Testing (GR)
7:30 pm.....Knights of Columbus (PH)
7:30 pm.....Legion of Mary (CL)
7:30 pm.....WON (APR)
7:30 pm.....Youth Choir (C)

Thursday, September 9

9:30 am.....Craft Group (APR)
7:00 pm.....ESL Testing (GR)
7:30 pm.....Prayer Group (APR)

Saturday, September 11

10:00 am.....Dog Obedience (PL)
10:00 am.....ESL Registration (SL)



Information Meeting

AD ALTARE DEI “To The Altar of God”
Sunday, September 12, 2010, 2:00 p.m.
All-Purpose Room, Nativity Church, Burke

The Ad Altare Dei program was designed by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting to help develop the spiritual growth of Catholic Boy Scouts in their day-to-day lives by focusing on the seven Sacraments . All Catholic Boy Scouts, age 13 – 14, who have completed the sixth grade and are active in their BSA Troop are eligible to earn this religious emblem. Learn more! You and your parent(s)/guardian(s) are invited to attend an information meeting on Sunday, September 12 at 2:00 p.m. Nativity Church, All-Purpose Room.

NATIVITY YOUTH CHOIR

We are happy to announce that the Nativity Youth Choir is coming back! In order to get the group off the ground and running, we are in need of singers, 7th-12th grade, ready to share their music with the Parish of Nativity. The choir will concentrate on singing contemporary Christian music as well as tradition hymns and praise. The choir will rehearse Wednesday evenings in the sanctuary from 7:30-9:00pm and serve the 11:00am Mass on Sundays. Rehearsals will begin TBA. If you are interested in being a part of this choir or simply need more information, please contact Sara Prince at



sara.e.prince@gmail.com.

**Monday September 6th...Labor Day Picnic at St. Mary's Historic Church @ the intersection of route 123 and Fairfax Station Road. 10:30 A.M. Mass with the Blessing of the Tools (backpacks, laptops etc.) Noon-5:00 p.m.- food, ice cream, crafts, games, rides free swing band and dance floor
ADMISSION FREE 703-978-4141**

A BIT OF HUMOR

When an elderly man was told that he needed an operation, he insisted that his son-in-law, a famous surgeon, perform the operation. On the operating table in the hospital, before he was given anesthesia, the old man asked to speak to his son-in-law. “Doctor”, he told his son-in-law, “I have complete confidence in you. Don’t be nervous, do your best, and remember, if it doesn’t go well, if something happens to me...your mother-in-law is going to come and live with you and your wife...” Bart Van Giessen, Texas Township, MI

Do you have numbness in your toes or cold feet? Do your legs ache after walking a short distance? If so, you may want to consider being screened for peripheral arterial disease (PAD), a condition in which the arteries that carry blood to the arms or legs become narrowed or clogged by plaque, slowing or stopping the flow of blood. Life Line Screening uses an ankle brachial index (ABI) to scan for one’s risk of PAD. PAD is closely linked to coronary artery disease, and identifying PAD can also help prevent heart attack and stroke. The screening will be held on Friday, September 24, 2010 at Burke United Methodist Church. Register for the Stroke, Vascular Disease and Heart Rhythm Package for \$139. All four ultrasound screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Your Health is in Your Hands, so call 1-888-653-6441 to pre-register. 8 - 10% of all screening results in ABNORMAL to CRITICAL Findings. The Screenings are Effective and are Saving Lives!!

SECCIÓN en ESPAÑOL

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 o 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: Deacon 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 entradas por correo 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 Paola 703-493-8719

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

PENSAMIENTO PARA EL DÍA

Aprende a vivir con sencillez

Esto vale para ustedes: el que no renuncia a todo lo que tiene, no podrá ser discípulo mío. Lucas 14:33

UNA AMIGA MÍA, QUE estaba acostumbrada a la buena vida, perdió el trabajo de un día para el otro. Al comprender que estaría bastante tiempo sin empleo, decidió vender su lujoso apartamento, guardar sus muebles en un depósito y mudarse a una pequeña casa donde abrió una tienda. Para adaptarse a su nueva situación económica, redujo al mínimo sus gastos y así evitó endeudarse. Gracias a su flexibilidad y actitud positiva, no solo sobrevivió tener que “acampar” en la tienda, sino que con el tiempo comenzó a irle bien económicamente.

La necesidad la empujó a reordenar sus prioridades y abandonar su estilo de vida anterior. Vivir con sencillez le ofreció calma. Se volvió más compasiva con los necesitados y más dependiente de Dios. Perder el trabajo le ofreció la oportunidad de llevar una vida más espiritual. Y, al estar menos agobiada por las posesiones, halló libertad y alegría.

Ayúdanos a dejar atrás todo lo que nos aparta de ti, oh Señor de Vida.

Elizabeth-Anne Stewart

Acto de esperanza

OH, DIOS MÍO, confío en tu infinita bondad y en tus promesas, y espero obtener el perdón de mis pecados, la ayuda de tu gracia, y la vida eterna, por los méritos de Jesucristo, mi Señor y Redentor. Amén.

Acto de amor

OH, DIOS MÍO, te amo sobre todas las cosas con todo mi corazón y con toda mi alma, porque eres bueno y digno de mi amor. Amo a mi prójimo como a mí mismo por amor a ti. Perdono a quienes me han ofendido y pido perdón a cuantos yo haya ofendido. Amén.