



Dear Friends,

Four years ago, when I was asked to give the invocation at the National Pageant of Peace at the Ellipse, I had the privilege of meeting and speaking with Poet Laureate, Dr. Maya Angelou. When I read the following, that she wrote, I immediately thought of a poster that hung in my office and got misplaced several years ago when my office was being painted. Although the poster was lost, I remember so well the words a motto I try to live by each day. **CAUTION HUMAN BEINGS HERE HANDLE WITH CARE.** If we are honest, we all can think of times when we didn't practice that saying. Some of us are prone to gossip, tearing another person down, or exaggerating their faults. Some will say nice things when you are with them, and negate you when you are gone. Some young people attempt to bully others in school because they may be different from them. Equally as hurtful are those who could stand up for their classmate, but choose to be the silent bystander. Empathy is an innate inborn quality in human beings. And yet, how often do we remain quiet? I recall reading: *"To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others use your heart."* The following writing from Dr. Angelou on *Learning* is reflective for me and good advice for all.

*"I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow. I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights. I've learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents you'll miss them when they're gone from your life. I've learned that making a "living" is not the same thing as making a "life." I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance. I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back. I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision. I've learned that even when I have pains I don't have to be one. I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone. People love a warm hug, or just as friendly pat on the back. I've learned that I still have a lot to learn. I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." (Dr. Maya Angelou)*

Although I no longer have the poster the words are embedded in my heart: *Caution Human Beings Here Handle With Care.* Just think - if more people practiced those words the headlines in our newspapers would be much different. Didn't Jesus say the same on so many different occasions? *"Love your neighbor as you love yourself."*

Have a nice week - and try to handle people this week with care - especially on the beltway!

## OUR "ASKING" PRAYERS



As early as the second century, an extended form of intercessory prayer was found in the liturgies of the fledgling church. This usually occurred following the homily and consisted of an invitation to prayer for a particular intention, and silent prayer followed by a response sung by the entire community. Gradually over time, as the congregation took a more passive role in the liturgy, this form of prayer disappeared from the Roman liturgy. The Second Vatican Council however, restored intercessory prayer in the liturgy, referring to it as the *intercessions* or *universal prayer*, because it is concerned with the needs of the whole Church and world, not just our community. It is called the *prayer of the faithful* because it is the priestly prayer of the baptized. It is the one prayer that **WE**, the people in the pews, have the privilege of bringing before our God. These "asking prayers" are a mark of our concern for the well being of the whole world and also a call and a reminder to us of our responsibility to serve and to pray for others.



### Monday, September 14

LUCILLE DEMBINSKI.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

### Tuesday, September 15

Special Intentions of  
MR. & MRS. ROBERT HAY.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

### Wednesday, September 16

GLADYS WILSON.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

### Thursday, September 17

IRENE KROSINICK.....7:30am - Fr. O'Keefe

### Friday, September 18

JOHN CONNOLLY.....7:30am - Fr. O'Keefe

### Saturday, September 19

LUCY RANIERE.....9:00am - Fr. O'Keefe

ESTELLE CONNOLLY.....5:00pm - Fr. O'Keefe

### Sunday, September 20

ALINE HARKINS.....7:30am - Fr. Wilson

SANTIAGO HERNANDEZ.....9:00am - Fr. Martin

ABEL ARAKAKI.....11:00am - Fr. O'Keefe

PARISHIONERS.....12:45pm - Fr. Martin

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC) Classes Begin

RCIC is a program for children who are at least age 7 through high school and who have not been baptized or who are baptized but have not received 1st Holy Communion. Pre-registration is required for those attending RCIC classes. The Monday RCIC classes will begin September 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, and continue through late Spring 2010. Please assemble at the back of the Church on September 14<sup>th</sup> for the 7:00 pm class, and the children will be escorted to their classrooms by Teri Baker. Thereafter, RCIC students will report directly to their assigned rooms. Students who are age 7 and those up through 7<sup>th</sup> grade, will meet in Room 4 of Nativity School, and their catechist team will be led by Elba Carabeo. Student in 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades will meet in Room 9 of Nativity School, and their catechist team will initially be led by Terry Riggins. Classes will be held from 7:00 to 8:15 pm. RCIC students will receive the appropriate sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Please contact the Church office at (703) 455-2400 for registration information or send an e-mail to [rriggins@cox.net](mailto:rriggins@cox.net).

### Altar Flowers

In Loving Memory of  
William and Rosemary Schaefer  
From Ron and Linda Schaefer

In Loving Memory of  
Scott Smart  
From Toni Smart

In Loving Memory of  
Bernard F. Loughery  
From The Loughery Family

## Nativity Catholic School



Nativity Catholic School is continuing to accept enrollments for the 2009-2010 school year. In 2009 Nativity School was awarded the Blue Ribbon of Excellence. Please inquire in the school office or call Amor Paulson at 703-455-2300, ext. 119 for more information.

**Nativity's Grief Support Group**, for all who have suffered the death of a loved one, and are in need of the comfort that sharing can bring, meets at **7:30pm** in our school building on the **First & Third Thursday of each month** and is open to all adults at no charge. Prior registration is not required. Contact Carol Mack for more information 703-455-2400, ext. 117

**MORNING BIBLE STUDY** Bible study will start on **Sept. 15 at 9:30 a.m.** in the all-purpose room. This year's study, **Israel's Story-Part 1**, explores Old Testament history and stories from the creation accounts of Genesis to the fall of the Northern Kingdom and its prophets. For information, please contact Joan Consoli, 703-690-5922 or Janet Hamrick, 703-866-9465.

### CUB SCOUT NEWS

Cub Scout Pack 1101 will be holding their first pack meeting in Nativity Parish Hall on Sept. 18th at 7:30pm. Boys entering 1st through 5th grade (7-10 yrs. Old) are welcome to join. SCOUTING - A COMPASS FOR LIFE.

### PRO-LIFE CORNER



Our Pro-Life work is not only a matter of telling the truth about abortion but it is also a matter of working to change public policy so the laws of our country will never allow the destruction of innocent human life again. Choose Life Today. Choose Life Tomorrow. Pray Always. We Must Do No Less.

Are you suffering from an abortion experience? **PROJECT RACHEL** offers spiritual and psychological healing. Call 703-276-0373

([projectrachel@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto: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 information.

### Crisis Pregnancy 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

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 20, 21, and 22 for students registered by September 7.** On the first day of class, students should report to the Parish Hall to meet their teachers and be escorted to their classrooms.

**Students registered after September 7, start classes on September 27, 28, and 29.**

**Catechists and assistants are still needed for some classes.** To volunteer, stop by the Religious Education Office, or call 703-455-0372, or email: [www.nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org](mailto:www.nativity.ccd@nativityschool.org).

**Catechists and assistants are to attend a very important Orientation Meeting on Sunday, September 13, at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall.**

**Confirmation Catechists and Assistants** should attend a very important information meeting on Sunday, September 27, at 7:30pm in Room 9.

Catechetical Sunday, September 20, Nativity's 9:00am Mass — All Religious Education Program Volunteers will be commissioned.

**To register your child for Religious Education classes, submit a completed Student Registration form with payment and a copy of the baptismal certificate,** (unless a certificate copy is already on file in the Religious Education Office). For further information call 703-455-0372.



**CLEARANCE!!!!** The Little Angel Gift Shop is making room for Christmas items. We have CD's (\$16..now \$5) books and gifts (half price). Space is needed for crèches, decorations, cards and more. Come, check out our treasures, you may find that special something that you have been looking for.



It's been a busy summer for the bookkeeper's office. The church's year end for our books was on June 30, 2009. We are on a fiscal year for books versus a more common 12 month year end (Jan.-Dec.). The reason is based on many Churches having a school. School closed in June for the year. All contracts and expenses relate to one school year, making the accounting books easy to open and close. God Bless!





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

### The Knights of Columbus...supporting the family

The family stands at the core of the Knights of Columbus' beliefs and ideals as a Catholic, family, fraternal service organization. The Knights of Columbus strongly supports the family at the local, state and international levels in many ways, especially through an award-winning insurance program. Councils throughout the country regularly sponsor support groups for new parents, scholarships, babysitting services, fund-raisers for families in need, pro-life activities, family recognition programs, and other family-related projects.

Throughout the year, Nativity Knights work to strengthen families by encouraging wholesome home life. Member families make time to enjoy each other's company, talk and be active together. Our members are encouraged to choose the Holy Family as their model of interdependence, with sharing and respect for each other.

The Knights of Columbus is the largest lay Catholic organization in the world with more than 1.75 million members. Last year members of the Knights of Columbus donated more than 68 million hours of volunteer service and contributed more than \$144 million to charity. Here at Nativity, Knights donated over 12,000 hours of volunteer service and raised nearly \$40,000 for charitable causes last year.

We are searching for the next generation of Knights.

**Interested in having the experience of a lifetime by joining this great fraternal organization that is involved in giving back to our church, our families, and our community?** E-mail [GK7992@VAKOFC.org](mailto:GK7992@VAKOFC.org), visit the coffee room after Mass to visit with a Brother Knight or call Matt Smith (703) 455-3197 or Tom Savage (512) 983-5641.



Nativity Catholic School would like to thank those who continually support the school through their **Combined Federal Campaign** contributions. The school benefits greatly from your CFC donations and would like to ask everyone to please remember our designated number **71097** when making your pledges. Thank you again for your support.

The best mathematical equation I have ever seen:  
1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

Irene Lagan



### ARLINGTON DIOCESE MISSION FAIR *All ARE WELCOME!*

The first Arlington Diocese Mission Fair will be held on **Saturday, October 3, 2009 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. James Catholic Church in Falls Church, Virginia.** Parishes from across the Diocese will be represented at this day-long event. Guest speakers, workshops and exhibits will focus attention on the mission work of the Arlington Diocese. Clergy, religious and lay leaders will gather to teach best practices, share experiences and learn from each other, in an effort to affirm and encourage the Gospel call to engagement with the poor. Theresa Patterson, Executive Director of the Parish Twinning Program of the Americas, will give a keynote address.

The event will also provide opportunities for parishes and individuals to get involved in mission work. Catholic Relief Services, Food For The Poor and other organizations will be on hand.

**SHARING HOPE**, a support group for men and women going through separation and divorce, will meet Friday, September 18th at St. Mary of Sorrows Historic Church Hall off Rte. 123. The topic will be "Stress Busters". Newcomers are warmly welcomed and there is no fee. For further information directions or encouragement, please call Barbara at 703-425-5467 or Maureen (work) 703-610-5805.

**POT LUCK...**All families of Nativity are invited to join the Family Fellowship Group on Friday, September 25th at 6pm in the Parish Hall for a POT LUCK gathering. Bring a dish to share and join us in celebrating our community of families. This group was formed over a year ago to bring families together in fellowship, faith and service. The group serves at the local Ronald McDonald House here in VA. For more information email us at [nativityfamilyfellowship@yahoo.com](mailto:nativityfamilyfellowship@yahoo.com).

The Roamin' Catholic--Rob Wahl Children's Series  
Rob the Roamin' Catholic traverses the globe on exciting adventures of discovery, as he explores the great truths of our Catholic Faith. With a loveable wackiness all his own, Rob is sure to bring your children a million laughs as they learn about the Faith. Mondays at 4:30pm, Saturdays at 10am. (30 minutes)

### Thought for the Week:

Home is where the heart can laugh without shyness. Home is where the heart's tears can dry at their own pace.

Vernon G. Baker

### FORTHCOMING PROGRAMS AT DOMINICAN RETREAT...Advance Reservations Necessary

- Sept. 18-20.....Toward Fullness of Life: Body, Mind, Spirit - W/E Women and Men, directed by Fr. Tom Ryan, CSP...Friday 7:15pm to Sunday 12:30pm
- Sept. 25-27.....Retiro de Fin de Semana para Mujeres que Hablan Espanol, diorector del Retiro Padre Avelino Gonzalez...Viernes 7:30pm al Domingo 3:00pm
- Sept. 30.....Day of Reflection for Extraordinary Wednesday Ministers of Holy Communion, directed by Fr. Bob Cilinski, 9:30am to 3:00pm
- Oct. 2-4.....Place of Splendor-A Carmelite Vision of the Christian Soul-Men and Women, directed by Fr. David Centner, OCD, Friday 7:15pm to Sunday 1:30pm
- Oct. 7.....Day of Reflection-Living the Mysteries of Wednesday the Rosary in Our Lives, directed by Fr. Greg Salomone, OP, 9:30am to 3:00pm
- Oct. 8.....Harvest Evening for Married Couples, Thursday directed by Fr. Greg Salomone, OP 6:30pm to 9:30pm. Includes Candle Light Dinner, Conference, Mass and Renewal of Vows.

For further information call Dominican Retreat at 703-356-4243 or check our website at [www.dominicanretreat.org](http://www.dominicanretreat.org)

### Permanent Diaconate Inquiry Meetings

Inquiry meetings for those interested in the Permanent Diaconate program in the Diocese of Arlington will be held on the following dates at parishes throughout the Diocese:

**Monday, September 21**, 7:30pm at St. John the Evangelist, Warrenton

**Wednesday, September 23**, 7:30pm at St. John Neumann, Reston

**Thursday, September 24**, 7:30pm at St. Timothy, Chantilly

**Monday, September 28**, 7:30pm at Good Shepherd, Alexandria

**Tuesday, September 29**, 7:30pm at St. Luke, McLean

**Thursday, October 1**, 7:30pm at Sacred Heart, Manassas

Men interested in discerning vocation to the Permanent Diaconate, and their wives, are invited to these meetings to get a better understanding of the vocation in general and the formation process in particular. Refreshments will be served. For more information and to RSVP by Sept. 16, please call 703-841-2563.

## THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

### Sunday, September 13

#### **Grandparent's Day**

6:00 pm.....All Catechist's Workshop/Orientation Meeting (PH)

### Monday, September 14

7:00 pm.....RCIA (GR)

7:00 pm.....RCIC (PH)

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

### Tuesday, September 15

9:30 am.....Morning Bible Study (APR)

### Wednesday, September 16

10:00am.....Mom and Me (APR)

7:00 pm.....Hispanic Prayer Group (SC)

7:00 pm.....Knights of Columbus (PH)

7:00 pm.....ESL Classes (RM. 5)

7:00 pm.....Prayer Shawl Meeting (APR)

7:30 pm.....Evening Bible Study (RM. 9)

7:30 pm.....Legion of Mary

7:30 pm.....BSA Troop 1100

### Thursday, September 17

9:30 am.....Craft Group (APR)

7:00 pm.....ESL Classes (RM. 5)

7:30 pm.....Prayer Group (APR)

7:30 pm.....Grief Support Group (S)

7:30 pm.....Venture Crew (RM. 4)

### Friday, September 18

Scholastic Fall Book Fair - SL

7:00 pm.....Pack 1101 (PH)

### Saturday, September 19

9:00 am.....Mass (CH)

9:30 am.....Pro-Life Rosary (CH)

10:00 am.....Dog Obedience Class (PL)

10:00 am.....ESL Classes (RM. 5,6,7,8)

4:30 pm.....Hispanic CCD (S/PH)

7:00 pm.....Hispanic Mass (CH)

You Can Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. For confidential information about or to register for the October program beginning with a weekend on October 23-25 call 703 351 7211 or [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com)