



Dear Friends,

Today we celebrate the Feast of All Saints. As a youngster growing up, this Feast always brought to mind the great saints, you know, the ones whose Feast Days made the calendar and the ones mentioned in the Litany of the Saints. But now, due to the passing of my Dad a couple of years ago and my Mom just this past Christmas, this Feast has taken on a more personal note for me. Certainly I think of them, as you think of your loved ones, being in heaven celebrating this joyous day.

When we look at the Gospel for November 1st, we see that it is the Beatitudes. What a perfect Gospel for this day. It tells us just who all those saints are! Fr. William Bausch, a priest in the Diocese of Trenton, New Jersey, writes of this Gospel choice in his book *Timely Homilies*, (Twenty-third Publications). He says: "You can't count the number of people who are among the holy ones. This, in turn, reveals something about God as well, because the Feast of All Saints is basically a feast not only of the compassion of Jesus, who is concerned about the marginal, it is about the love of God that is so universal and beyond our wildest dreams that, as the reading says, it has found the way to redeem 'people from every race, language and walk of life.' And so it would seem that among those countless people are those who hunger and thirst, the persecuted, the lonely, the meek, the single-hearted."

Today, we celebrate the lives of your loved ones and mine. As we go about our day, let us keep in mind the overwhelming love that God has for us, as well as the knowledge that this day is also a feast of Hope. The words of the song, which is often sung as our recessional hymn, are so very true... "Our God is an Awesome God!!"

The Beatitudes

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

Gospel according to Matthew 5: 1-12a

Have a nice week!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Martin".

New Saints



Recently Pope Benedict XVI made news when he canonized several very holy individuals, elevating them to sainthood. Two of these new saints are people with whom we can identify. St. Jeanne Jugan was the founder of the Little Sisters of the Poor. This Order of beautiful religious women come each year to our parish to ask for monies to care for the needy. They dedicate their lives to those who have nothing. The other newly canonized saint whom we might be familiar with is St. Fr. Damian, the holy man who gave his life in caring for those who suffered from leprosy. As today is the Feast of All Saints, it might be interesting to take a look at just how “sainthood” came to be. Saints were first recognized by the Church around 100 AD. This recognition was based on the Jewish practice of honoring prophets and holy people. In the early centuries, people were recognized as saints by popular acclaim. Each town and region had its own list of saints and devotions associated with them. As you might imagine, the numbers grew dramatically and so did the stories and the abuses, as each town tried to outdo the other. Everything was getting totally out of hand. In the tenth century it was decided that the election of an individual to sainthood would be decided by the local bishop, rather than the people. Soon this decision was passed on to the Pope. The first person to receive papal canonization was a bishop, Ulric of Augsburg in the year 993 AD. He was canonized by Pope John XV. In the centuries since then, the process of canonization has evolved into a series of steps, requiring years of examination and proof of miracles attributed to belief and prayer to the candidate. It is a lengthy process, but one filled with devotion and ultimately great joy and celebration.



Monday, November 2

LEGION OF MARY

DECEASED MEMBERS.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Tuesday, November 3

NICHOLAS FREEMAN.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Wednesday, November 4

DOROTHY PERAINO.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Thursday, November 5

ALL SOULS DAY NOVENA.....7:30am - Fr. O'Keefe

Friday, November 6

KEITH SEFTON.....7:30am - Fr. O'Keefe

Saturday, November 7

WALTER & HELEN KONIECZNY.....9:00am - Fr. O'Keefe

SALVATORE DEL GAUDIO.....5:00pm - Fr. Wilson

Sunday, November 8

PARISHIONERS.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

FATHER OF YRAIDA BAUCAGE.....9:00am - Fr. O'Keefe

JOYCE HENDERSON.....11:00am - Fr. Martin

KATHLEEN ROBERTS.....12:45pm.- Fr. O'Keefe



Open House for Religious Education classes — parents and guardians are invited to take this opportunity to visit their children's classes during sessions on Sunday, November 8; Monday, November 9; and Tuesday, November 10.

Catechists and Assistants for Seventh Grade should attend an important information meeting on Sunday, November 8, at 7:30pm in Room 9.

The **Inclement Weather Policy** can be viewed at www.edu.nativityburke.org; click on Weather Policy.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Friday, November 6th from 8:00 am to 1:30 pm in Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The Chapel is located in the vestibule of the Church. Adoration closes with Benediction at 1:30pm.



**CAN YOU COME AND SPEND SOMETIME
IN PRAYER WITH OUR LORD?**

Altar Flowers

**In Loving Memory of Marie Pruniski Morrissey
and Thomas Nicholas Morrissey
Love, Patty, Tommy and Michael Morrissey**

And

**In Loving Memory of
Son, Andres Yelicie and
Father, Eduardo Barrios
From The Yelicie Family**



In celebration of the Year of the Priest, the Knights of Columbus and Women of Nativity are holding a reception for our Parish Priest today, November 1, from 2:00pm to 4:00pm in the Parish Hall. Come, enjoy some light refreshments and thank our priest for their service to our Parish Family.



WEEKEND RETREAT FOR PEOPLE FACING SERIOUS ILLNESS:

A retreat specially planned for men and women facing serious physical illness will be held at the Dominican Retreat House in McLean, VA on Dec. 11-13, 2009. A team of doctors, nurses, priests, sisters and helpers will be present around the clock. Scheduling allows plenty of time for rest and reflection. This retreat is offered free of charge. This is a non-smoking weekend.

Registration closes Dec. 1, 2009. Please call as soon as possible. Dominican Retreat: 703-356-4243 or Doug Sebek, 703-860-4929.

Pro-Life Corner:



What liberation is there in the destruction of one's own baby? What victory for women's rights has been wrought doing such violence in the womb? What kind of "choice" is it when a woman's life-giving, procreative power is betrayed for the cost of an abortion? Pray for all who have had abortions.

On Tuesday, November 3, 2009, Election Day will occur for candidates for the Virginia state offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General and House of Delegates seats. Call 703-222-0776 (recorded message) for voting info in Fairfax County or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov. Elections have consequences. Vote Pro-Life!

A WOMAN'S CHOICE is a Crisis Pregnancy Center that provides free pregnancy testing, referrals for medical treatment, housing, social service assistance and tangible support for pregnant women, including clothing and equipment. (703-538-4305).

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.

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**

WOMEN OF NATIVITY



Our Lady of Knock Society would like you to join us for our 13th Annual Card Party for Charity. The card party will be held on Saturday, November 21st, at 6:30. A donation of \$15 will get you in the door to access all the fun and prizes. **NO CARD SKILLS** are required. Reservations must be made by November 15th. Tickets are on sale after all Masses or you can call Cathy Durham at (703) 866-3646.

The **Women of Nativity (WON)** invite you to participate in a WONderful evening of food, fellowship and giving. Please join us at the Asian Grill on Wednesday, November 11th at 6:00 pm where there will be dinner and door prizes! Additionally, **food donations** for St. Augustine's and Lorton Community Action Center will be gratefully accepted at this time. **Requested Food Items: Cans of vegetables, sweet potatoes, fruit and cranberry jelly; boxed mashed potatoes, baby food (jars), baby cereal and frozen turkeys.** Dinner is a set menu specially priced at \$25. To participate, you may contact Ruth Ann Brooks by phone at **703-764-1072** or email rbrooks53@verizon.net

It's that time again for the annual **Women of Nativity's Giving Tree** project. As always, we are excited about the upcoming event and are so appreciative to partner with the generous parishioners of our church. On November 21, 22, 28 and 29, ornaments with holiday wishes will be placed on a Christmas tree in the vestibule. Please take the ornaments of your choice and return the gifts to the church vestibule on the collection dates of December 5, 6, 12, and 13. The wrapping instructions for each gift will be on the back of the ornament. We appreciate the generosity and caring of our parishioners in making this a special and happy holiday for so many of our less fortunate brothers and sisters. Please feel free to contact Sally Quenneville (703-764-3239 or sallyq48@cox.net) with any questions.



MORE DETAILS IN BULLETINS CLOSER TO THE DATE!

"He is able for all time to save those who approach god through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them." are you being called to help others approach the mercy of God as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Call Father Brian Bashista (703) 841-2514, or write: b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org

Thought for the Week

Will you help to make today more pleasant for someone, or more miserable? If the former, your day, too, will be more pleasant; if the latter, it, too, will be miserable.

John W. Vogel

viBE**THIS WEEK!!****Sunday, November 8th: High School Vibe
7:30-8:30pm****Announcements:**

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time in helping with the CYO program in the past. If you are interested in helping with the youth group I am putting together a list of volunteers. Please email Meghan at cvo@nativityschool.org if you want to help out in any way. This includes but isn't limited to baking, fundraising, and helping with Vibe nights. You are all in my prayers and thank you for your help!

In his book *Orthodoxy*, Catholic theologian G.K. Chesterton reflected that "Nature is not our mother. Nature is our sister. We can be proud of her beauty, since we have the same father...To St. Francis, Nature is a sister, and even a younger sister: a little dancing sister, to be laughed at as well as loved." This insight lead Washington, DC, area pastor Brian D. McLaren to encourage us: "Follow St. Francis and Chesterton, and you won't sell your little sister, you will seek to enjoy her, cherish her, protect her, and encourage her to become all she can be." (A Generous Orthodoxy)

How can you enjoy, cherish and protect Nature this week?

A green thought from the Nativity Creation Care Ministry

Make Your Voices Heard:

All are invited to attend the V.O.I.C.E. meeting on Monday, Nov. 2, at 7:30 pm in Nativity's Green or "crying" Room at the rear of the church. (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement) At the meeting, plans will be made to make our voices heard by County and State elected officials concerning V.O.I.C.E. agenda items on affordable housing and low-income adult dental care. For more information, see information in the V.O.I.C.E. folder on the bulletin board in the lobby near the Gift Shop or call or write Joe Pettit, 703-455-4937, pettit@georgetown.edu.

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 and third Thursday of each month and is open to all adults at no charge. Prior registration is not required. Contact Carol Mack (703-455-2400, ext 117) for more information.

School Surprises Father Martin With A Birthday Celebration
By Kate Forrest, Fifth Grader at Nativity Catholic School

The whole school started planning for Father Martin's birthday two weeks before. We wanted to surprise him in the Parish Hall during our morning Fellowship on October 14th. Fellowship is when we say prayers, the pledge of allegiance and morning announcements. While we waited, I helped the Principal read the day's prayers, the Pledge of Allegiance and the weather report. Fifth Graders are responsible for reporting the weather conditions every day during morning announcements.

When Father Martin walked in; we all screamed "Happy Birthday!" Everyone sang the birthday song including the whole student body, teachers, office staff and two dear friends of Father Martin. He was really surprised! We had an Irish theme for the program since he was getting ready to go to Ireland on his actual birthday. Everyone even dressed in green!

The program started with Mrs. Feary the Fourth Grade teacher, giving Father Martin a cake she baked decorated with candy shamrocks. Next, the First Graders sang "You Are My Hero" which he genuinely enjoyed. Mrs. O'Donnell the Art teacher followed by presenting a card to Father Martin shaped in a big heart and signed by every student. On the front of the card were dollar bills formed into shamrocks; inside were dollar bills that the children collected for Father Martin's beloved Project Starfish. After the card presentation, Andrea Fernandez a Fourth Grader read a letter she wrote. Her letter was very sincere and deeply touched Father Martin. The next routine was an Irish dance performed by a group of girls in different grades. Maura Blanchfield (Sixth Grade) led Josie Buhrow (Fifty Grade), Teodora and Katie Montieth (Fourth Grade), Rosemary Paulson (Third Grade), and Emily Chapman (Second Grade), in a traditional dance number. All wore beautiful costumes. Maggie Norman a Sixth Grader followed by playing the "Irish Washer Woman's" jig on her violin. The program ended with the Sixth Graders reciting limericks they wrote about Father Martin and Daisy, his dog.

When the program was finished, Father Martin thanked us by giving the school a dress-down day, extra recess for Wednesday, a no-homework Thursday and ice cream Monday! He was feeling a lot of joy, happiness and appreciation for what we did. It was awesome!



Predatory Car Title, Payday and Line of Credit Loans in VA

On Monday, November 16th from 7pm-9pm, Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Arlington will be hosting an event on efforts to cap interest rates on predatory consumer loans. Interest rates on these loans currently range from 250%-400% per year. We will show several short video clips explaining these loans and hear from several speakers working on the fight to cap interest rates on such loans. Father Tim Hickey, CSSP will give a Church/Biblical perspective on usury and predatory lending. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be served. The event will be in the Founders Room of the Parish Ministry Center, 2700 S. 19th St., Arlington, VA 22204. For questions please contact Fred Cain (Social Justice/Outreach Minister) at Our Lady Queen of Peace, 703-979-5580.

SALT (Social Action Linking Together) announces it's **ANNUAL FALL TRAINING CONFERENCE**—Renew your commitment to Social & Economic Justice with keynote by Michael Cassidy, Executive Director of the Commonwealth Institute—Sunday November 15th at 2:30 - 4:30pm at the Providence Presbyterian located at 9019 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax. Learn first hand what social justice issues are on the agenda for advocacy in the upcoming 2010 Virginia General Assembly, and learn how to respond. There is no charge. Bring a friend. For more information visit the SALT web site at www.S-A-L-T.org or contact SALT Coordinator, John Horejsi, jhorejsi@cox.net. For directions call Providence Presbyterian at (703) 978-3934.

The **University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN**, is currently accepting applications for its program in educational administration designed especially for preparing Catholic school principals. The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree is part of the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program. All certified teachers interested in the principalship are encouraged to apply. For information, call 574-631-4449, or visit <http://ace.nd.edu>. The online application is now available on this site.

Religious face rising costs. Data submitted to the National Religious Retirement Office reveals that the average annual cost of care for women and men religious age 70 and over has more than doubled since 1989. Current statistics put this figure at \$35,077. per person annually, with skilled care reaching nearly \$55,000. Your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides critical support to religious institutes in meeting the escalating costs of elder care. Please pray for all religious and give generously to this worthy cause.

**THE WEEK AHEAD
IN OUR PARISH**

Sunday, November 1

**Retirement Religious Collection
Echo Collection, H1N1 Vaccination after Masses**

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

Monday, November 2

4:00 & 7:00 pm.....CCD (S, PH)
7:00 pm.....RCIA (PH)
7:00 pm.....RCIC (Room 9)
8:00 pm.....AA Meeting (APR)

Tuesday, November 3 Election Day

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

Wednesday, November 4

10:00am.....Mom and Me (APR)
3:45 pm.....Daisy Troop 1449 (APR)
7:00 pm.....Hispanic Prayer Group (Rm. 6)
7:00 pm.....ESL Classes (Room. 5)
7:30 pm.....BSA Troop 1100 (PH)
7:30 pm.....Evening Bible Study (Room. 9)

Thursday, November 5

9:30 am.....Craft Group (APR)
6:30 pm.....GSA Jr. Troop 2948 (GR)
7:00 pm.....ESL Classes (Room. 5)
7:00 pm.....Spanish Class (Room. 2)
7:30 pm.....Prayer Group (APR)
7:30 pm.....Grief Support Group (S)
7:30 pm.....Venture Crew (Room. 4)
7:30 pm.....Parish Town Hall Meeting (PH)

Friday, November 6

8:00 am.....Blessed Sacrament Exposition (CH)
1:30 pm.....Blessed Sacrament Closing (CH)
4:00 pm.....Girl Scout Troop 2134 (APR)
7:00 pm.....Prayer Life & Spirit Workshop (Room 8)

Saturday, November 7

9:00 am.....Mass (CH)
9:00 am.....Prayer Group (PH)
9:30 am.....First Saturday Devotion (CH)
10:00 am.....Dog Obedience Class (PL)
10:00 am.....ESL Classes (RM. 5,6,7,8)
5:00 pm.....Hispanic CCD (S/PH)
7:00 pm.....Hispanic Mass (CH)