



Dear Friends,

My niece, Cheryl, sent me *The Daffodil Principle*. I decided to share it with you when the daffodils are in bloom (a good visual aid). While reading it, I thought that we really cannot change *the* world, only *our* world. Our world is different for each of us. However, we can all make a difference. It just takes determination and action. That idea was born out in our Starfish Project. Twelve years ago I had an idea about helping the destitute in Haiti. I suggested that if every family could save fifty cents a day during the forty days of Lent, we could collect \$50,000 and build about twenty-five houses in the slums of Port Au Prince. The first year we collected \$67,000. This simple idea continued to blossom and in twelve years we have collected almost \$2.2 million. We have built close to 700 houses and a 2-story school, funded a medical mobile van, rebuilt an orphanage destroyed by fire and bought five large motor boats that can go into much deeper waters to get a larger catch of fish. We have also built Tilapia fish farms to help educate the Haitians in being self-sufficient. Since the devastating earthquake a few months ago, our parishioners and people from twenty states have generously contributed \$250,000.

The thousands of people that we will never meet (all God's children) now live with hope and dignity, rescued from shacks made of whatever they could find. Each of you who placed a donation, large or small, in the wicker basket at the Church entrance, made that difference, much like the lady in *The Daffodil Story*. Each of us can make a difference.

*The Daffodil Principle by Jaroldeen Asplund Edward*

Several times my daughter had telephoned to say, "Mother, you must come to see the daffodils before they are over". I wanted to go, but it was a two hour drive from Laguna to Lake Arrowhead. "I will come next Tuesday", I promised a little reluctantly on her third call.



Next Tuesday dawned cold and rainy. Still, I had promised, and reluctantly I drove there. When I finally walked into Carolyn's house, I was welcomed by the joyful sounds of happy children. I delightedly hugged and greeted my grandchildren. "Forget the daffodils, Carolyn! The road is invisible in these clouds and fog, and there is nothing in the world except you and these children that I want to see badly enough to drive another inch!" My daughter smiled calmly and said, "We drive in this all the time, Mother." "Well, you won't get me back on the road until it clears, and then I'm heading for home!" I assured her. "But first we're going to see the daffodils. It's just a few blocks," Carolyn said. "I'll drive. I'm used to this." "Carolyn," I said sternly, "Please turn around." "It's all right, Mother, I promise. You will never forgive yourself if you miss this experience."

After about 20 minutes, we turned onto a small gravel road and I saw a small church. On the far side of the church, I saw a hand lettered sign with an arrow that read, "Daffodil Garden." we got out of the car, each took a child's hand, and I followed Carolyn down the path. Then, as we turned a corner, I looked up and gasped. Before me lay the most glorious sight. It looked as though someone had taken a great vat of gold and poured it over the mountain peak and its surrounding slopes. The flowers were planted in majestic, swirling patterns, great ribbons and swaths of deep orange, creamy white, lemon yellow, salmon pink, and saffron and butter yellow. Each different-colored variety was planted in large groups so that it swirled and flowed like its own river with its own unique hue. There were five acres of flowers.

*“Who did this?” I asked Carolyn. “Just one woman,” Carolyn answered. “She lives on the property. That’s her home.” Carolyn pointed to a well-kept A-frame house, small and modestly sitting in the middle of all that glory. We walked up to the house.*

*On the patio, we saw a poster. “Answers To the Questions I Know You Are Asking,” was the headline. The first answer was a simple one. “50,000 bulbs,” it read. The second answer was, “One at a time, by one woman. Two hands, two feet and one brain.” The third answer was, Began in 1958.”*

*For me, that moment was a life-changing experience. I thought of this woman whom I had never met, who, more than 40 years before, had begun, one bulb at a time, to bring her vision of beauty and joy to an obscure mountaintop. Planting one bulb at a time, year after year, this unknown woman had forever changed the world in which she lived. One day at a time, she had created something of extraordinary magnificence, beauty and inspiration. The principle her daffodil garden taught is one of the greatest principles of celebration. That is, learning to move toward our goals and desires one step at a time. When we multiply tiny pieces of time with small increments of daily effort, we, too, will find we can accomplish magnificent things. We can change the world.*

*“It makes me sad in a way,” I admitted to Carolyn. “What might I have accomplished if I had thought of a wonderful goal 35 or 40 years ago and had worked away at it ‘one bulb at a time’ through all those years? Just think what I might have been able to achieve!”*

*My daughter summed up the message of the day in her usual direct way. “Start tomorrow....”*

**Remember, we can never make a better past, but we all can make a better future.**

**Have a great week!**




Monday, April 12

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

Tuesday, April 13

Normand Gamache.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Wednesday, April 14

Sue McDonald.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Thursday, April 15

Scott Smart.....7:30am - Fr. O’Keefe

Friday, April 16

John Talarico.....7:30am - Fr. O’Keefe

Saturday, April 17

Michael Terhune.....9:00am - Fr. O’Keefe

Horacio Reynoso.....5:00pm - Fr. Wilson

Sunday, April 18

Vonnie Gossin.....7:30am - Fr. Wilson

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

John Bowen, Sr.....11:00am - Fr. Martin

Mary del Mestro.....12:45pm.- Fr. O’Keefe

Spanish Mass.....2:00pm - Fr. Wilson

Thought for the Week

**Thank God for what you have, trust God for what you need.**

Anonymous

**ADULT CONFIRMATION** will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More on Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2010. If you have been baptized and have received Holy Communion and would like to be confirmed, Fr. O’Keefe will hold classes on Wednesday, April 21st and 28th, as well as May 12th and 19th in Room 6 in the school. You must make a **commitment to attend all classes** and provide a baptismal certificate (dated within the last 6 months). If you are married, we require a copy of the marriage certificate issued by the Catholic Church. For more info call 703-455-2400 x 112.

Please remember to pray for our parishioners serving in Afghanistan and Iraq and their families.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The next daytime meeting will be on Monday, April 19th at 9:30am. The night time meeting will be on April 21st at 7:00 pm. Both meetings are held in the All Purpose Room. Come and bring your project to work on or come to learn how to make a prayer shawl for the seriously ill of our parish. For more info call Toni Rausch 703-455-3260; Flo Grike 703-250-7799 or Joanne Dezzutti 703-455-5702.

The Altar Flowers this week are In Loving Memory of Liberato and Guiseppina Ianiero and Douglas and Ethel DeNise



A Heartfelt Thank You from WON

Your generosity during our Easter Basket Drive was overwhelming. WON was able to provide baskets and to share the joy of Easter with over 120 children in our community. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to all who donated items and to the volunteers who gave of their precious time for this successful event.

Thank You to all who helped decorate our Church for Easter: the parishioners for the beautiful flowers, the women who decorated the sanctuary and the maintenance personnel who keep our Church clean. May Our Risen Lord bless you. **A Blessed Easter Season to all!**



Sometimes the littlest things in life can make your whole world change.

Anonymous

**PRO-LIFE CORNER**



Eventhough abortion has been "legal" for more than 37 years and represents the #1 cause of death in America today, many of our fellow citizens avoid the truth about abortion. If people are going to be "pro-choice" then they should know what the end result of that "choice" means. Choose adoption, not abortion! Affirm the sanctity of each human life by word and deed.

Are you suffering from an abortion experience? **PROJECT RACHEL** offers spiritual and psychological healing. Call 703-276-0373 or email ([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 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  
 Gabriel Project 1-866-444-3553



**Seventh Grade Students and Parents are to attend an important information meeting on Wednesday, April 21, at 7:00pm in the church regarding Confirmation requirements.**

**First Communicants** are to attend the **JESUS DAY RETREAT** on Saturday, April 17, 8:30am-12:30pm in the parish hall.

**Practice for First Communicants** will be held in the church, 6:00pm-7:30pm — Group I: Wednesday, April 28; Group II: Thursday, April 29.

**All Religious Education Program teachers and assistants** are to attend the Spring Workshop on Sunday, April 25, 7:30pm in the parish hall.

**Student Registration for 2010-2011 is now open.** Class placement is on a first-come, first-served basis according to the date the registration form is received in the Religious Education Office. Return a completed Student Registration form with payment as soon as possible to increase the chance of placement in your first choice session. **Important: registrations will not be processed without a copy of a student's baptismal certificate included with the form (including students baptized at Nativity)** unless the baptismal certificate is already on file in the Religious Education Office. Forms are available in the Religious Education Office, on the community board in the church vestibule, and at website: [www.edu.nativityburke.org](http://www.edu.nativityburke.org); on the Nativity CCD tab click on Student Registration.

**FAIR TRADE IS SPREADING!!**

Many stores are now carrying Fair Trade coffee and other items. Please look for the following labels to make sure you are purchasing the product that benefits the producer living in his own country.

Look for Fair trade Certified or Fair Trade Federation labels.



This label means a particular product has been independently certified as meeting Fair Trade standards, including a minimum price for farmers.



This label means the company strives to follow Fair Trade principles for everything it sells. Our supplier, Larry's Beans, is a federation member.

**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

## “Bright Week”

Last week we looked into the origin of our word *Easter* and the term *Bright Week*, referring to the first eight days of the Easter Season. Centuries ago it was common for all who had been baptized into the Church during the year, as well as those who had entered the Church during the Easter Vigil, to wear white clothing to Mass during *Bright Week*, the octave of Easter. Soon this very symbolic wearing of white by the new Christians or neophytes inspired ALL members of the Church to celebrate the grace of Easter by wearing new clothing during Easter. Might this be the basis for our tradition of buying or wearing a new outfit on Easter? The Feast of Ascension Thursday takes place forty days after Easter. Many years ago, the Easter Candle used to be extinguished on this day, symbolizing the physical departure of Christ from the earth. Over the centuries this custom was changed and the Easter candle now remains lit during Mass until the Feast of Pentecost which marks the end of the Easter Season. Several years ago, the celebration of the Feast of the Ascension was moved from Thursday, forty days after the Resurrection, to the Seventh Sunday of Easter. The last week of the Easter Season used to be known as *Expectation Week*. For it was during that time that the Apostles prayed with expectant faith for the coming of the Paraclete, the Holy Spirit. The Easter Season is a time filled with great meaning and symbolism, a time for rejoicing, a time of Grace! (Catholic Source Book, Harcourt Religion Publishers, 2000)



## 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 Hilary Adams and Kathleen Caler (Ireton HS), Katherine Monogue (Lake Braddock Middle School), and Nicole Miller, Seroja Boyakhchian and Meghan Cowden (Nativity School). This year at least five scholarships, each for \$1000, will be awarded. One scholarship will be awarded to the eighth-grade student scoring the highest; all entrants, including eighth-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, Monday, May 2, 2010**. Application forms are available in the Church office, at Nativity School, from guidance counselors at Bishop Ireton, Bishop O'Connell, and Paul VI high schools, or from Tony Rozga. Questions, call Tony Rozga, 440-8390.

## BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL UPDATE

\*\*\* 101% of \$360,000 Goal \*\*\*

Charity is  
*Faith*  
in Action

Congratulations! To date Nativity parishioners have pledged approximately \$365,000 towards the BLA goal of \$360,000. We made our goal by Easter!

Thank-you for supporting Fr. Martin so that Nativity would have another successful BLA program. There is still time to contribute towards this year's BLA campaign if you wish. The BLA helps to support diocesan offices and ministries that serve tens of thousands of people each year. From support of seminarians, to the training of our catechists, to helping our youth grow in their faith, to teaching respect for the sanctity of life, your support to the BLA impacts the lives of many people that reach beyond the scope of any individual parish. As you reflect on your blessings this year, we ask you to consider making a sacrificial pledge to help sustain the ministries and programs that are funded by the BLA. By making a pledge, your gift becomes intentional, representing a promise to give not from your leftovers, but from your first fruits. From all that we have received, let us make a proper return to God, Our Heavenly Father, the source of our life and all blessings.

## THREE FOX VINEYARDS HOSTS HAITI EARTHQUAKE EVENT

Proprietors Holli and John Todhunter are hosting a benefit for Operation Starfish Haiti Earthquake Rebuilding on **Saturday, May 1, 2010, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Three Fox Vineyards in Delaplane, Virginia.**

The event will feature Chef Roland Mesnier, former White House Pastry Chef, noted author and popular speaker. The Todhunter's will offer fine wines for tasting and Chef Roland will present desserts popular with First Families. He will autograph his renowned cookbook, *All The Presidents' Pastries*, and present an illustrated talk about his 25 years of service in the White House kitchen.

At approximately 3 p.m. Fr. Martin will officiate at the "Blessing of the Vines," an annual event that begins the prime growing season for the grapes. The public is invited to visit the idyllic Three Foxes Vineyards in the rolling Virginia countryside for a relaxing afternoon of picnicking, wine tasting, learning and entertainment. Proceeds from book and wine sales will go to Operation Starfish to build houses for earthquake refugees in the newest Nativity Village development.

**For additional details, contact Three Fox Vineyards at 540-364-6073**

Chef Roland's web site:

[www.threefoxvineyards.com](http://www.threefoxvineyards.com)

[www.chefrolandmesnier.com](http://www.chefrolandmesnier.com)

Operation Starfish web site:

[www.operation-starfish.org](http://www.operation-starfish.org)

Food For The Poor web site:

[www.foodforthepoor.org](http://www.foodforthepoor.org)

**SECCIÓN en ESPAÑOL**

**Actividades de la Comunidad Hispana**  
**Iglesia de la Natividad 6400 Nativity Lane-Burke, VA 22015**  
**Telephone 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 or Sr. Ponciano 202-262-6659

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

**Charla de convalidación:** Para recibir el sacramento del matrimonio: Domingo: Mar 07 a las 9:00am Contactar: Sra. Varillas 703-887-9924

**Charla para el Bautismo:** Primer Miércoles del mes 7:30pm

**Sacramento del Bautismo:** Tercer Sábado del mes. 1:30pm

**Grupo de Oración:** Miércoles 7:00pm a 9:00pm. Están todos invitados

**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 Chavez 703-473-6941

**Solidaridad Cristiana:** Mayor información Llamar a Mirian Ponciano 703-913-5494.

**Para mas información:** Maria Guevara 703-444-5716



**Sunday, April 11 GSA BAKE SALE**

2:00, 4:00, 6:00 pm.....CCD Classes (S)  
 7:30 pm.....Vibe Meeting (PH)

**Monday, April 12**

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

**Tuesday, April 13**

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

**Wednesday, April 14**

10:00 am.....Mom & Me (APR)  
 7:00 pm.....Hispanic Prayer Group  
 7:00 pm.....ESL (Room 5)  
 7:30 pm.....WON Meeting (APR)  
 7:30 pm.....Evening Bible Study (Room 9)  
 7:30 pm.....BSA Troop 1100 (PH)

**Thursday, April 15**

9:30 am.....Craft Group (APR)  
 6:30 pm.....Troop 2948 (GR)  
 7:00 pm.....ESL (Room 5)  
 7:00 pm.....Spanish Class (Room 2)  
 7:15 pm.....PG Life in the Spirit Seminar (Room 7/8)  
 7:30 pm.....Prayer Group (APR)  
 7:30 pm.....Baptism Class (SL)  
 7:30 pm.....Grief Support Group (S)  
 7:30 pm.....Venture Crew (Room 6)

**Friday, April 16**

4:00 pm.....Daisy Troop 6116 (APR)  
 7:00 pm.....Girl Scout Troop 1635 (APR)  
 7:00 pm.....Pack 1101 (PH)  
 7:00 pm.....BSA Troop 1100 Board of Rev. (Room 6)

**Saturday, April 10**

8:30 am.....Jesus Day Retreat (PH)  
 9:30 am.....Pro-Life Rosary (CH)  
 10:00 am.....ESL (Rooms 5,6,7,8)  
 10:00 am.....Dog Obedience Class (PL)  
 1:00 pm.....Hispanic Baptism (SC)  
 5:00 pm.....Hispanic CCD (S)

**HELP FOR CHILE AND HAITI AFTER THE EARTHQUAKES**



A Queen Size Quilt and beautiful jewelry sets, made and donated by parishioners, will be raffled for \$1.00 a chance. The proceeds will go for the reconstruction of the devastated cities in Chile and Haiti. Tickets are available in the Gift Shop. They will be on sale the weekend of April 10th and 11th. The drawing is scheduled for May 2nd.

The Mothers' Group at St. Mary's of Sorrows will be holding their annual Kids' Stuff Sale on Saturday, May 15. The sale supports the Mothers' Group, local charities, and individual families in need. They welcome any child-related donations, including infants' and children's clothing, toys, books, gear, and maternity and nursing items. Donations may be dropped off at St. Mary's from May 8-14 (please do not bring items before 4pm on May 8). Or shop the sale on May 15 from 8:30am - 1 pm. (half price after 12). The church is located at 5222 Sideburn Road in Fairfax. If you have any questions, contact Sigrid Ebert [sikama@hotmail.com](mailto:sikama@hotmail.com), (703) 543-8456.

There are still spaces available in the Pre-School and Pre-K classes at Nativity School for the 2010-2011 school year. If you are interested in enrolling your child please contact the Pre-School Office at 703-455-2300 ext. 136.

