



Dear Friends,

Bailey, a Nativity sixth grader, was on Easter vacation with his family and found the following true story in the church bulletin where they attended Sunday Mass. He passed it along to me with a note: “*I thought you would like this, Father.*” I am impressed that a young boy would be thinking of his pastor on his vacation!

JESUS WANTS TO CHANGE YOUR MIND

You are driving down the road in your car on a wild, stormy night, when you pass a bus stop and you see three people waiting for the bus:

1. An elderly lady who looks as if she is about to die
2. An old friend who once saved your life
3. The perfect partner you have been dreaming about

Which one would you choose to offer a ride to, knowing that there could only be one passenger in your car? **THINK BEFORE YOU CONTINUE READING.**

This is a moral/ethical dilemma that was once actually used as part of a job application. You could pick up the elderly lady, because she is going to die, and thus you should save her first. Or you could take the old friend because he once saved your life, and this would be the perfect chance to repay him. However, you may never be able to find your perfect mate again.

The candidate who was hired (out of 200 hundred applicants) had no trouble coming up with his answer. He simply said “I would give the car keys to my old friend and let him take the lady to the hospital. I would stay behind and wait for the bus with the partner of my dreams.”

Sometimes, we gain more if we are able to give up our stubborn thought limitations. **Never forget to think outside of the box! Change your thinking- change your life!**

For some people thinking outside of the box - rules, regulations, political correctness etc. - is difficult to do. As I look over the past two months our faith filled parishioners have lived outside the box in many ways. Faithfully they attended Eucharist each weekend, the Sacrament of love, and lived outside the box by living the message. When he received Holy Eucharist, my father always prayed, “Lord, help me become what I have just eaten.” You have become Christ’s hands and feet every week.

While you have prayed for our Bishop within the Mass you have also heeded his call to live outside the box by helping the various charities and good works of the Diocese through the Bishop’s Lenten Appeal. This year, you pledged \$364,000 – surpassing last year, and exceeding this year’s goal.

You have prayed for the poor inside the church, but then you activated your prayer by donating nearly \$300,000 for medicine and tents for survivors of the earthquake in Haiti. You have also partnered with our neighbors at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and packaged 142,000 dry meals for earthquake victims. You filled a 40’ sea container and now have another one almost full. You supported special events, our children have held bake sales, our teens have held Monday Lenten Soup suppers for the poor. In these and so many other ways you have lived outside the box.

And not only have you done all this in just a couple of months but you continue to support Operation Starfish. With your Lenten gifts of over \$200,000 this year, we will begin development of our 6th “Nativity Village” in Haiti. All the while you are supporting V.O.I.C.E., K of C homebuilding, CYO work camp and many local charity programs. **You are truly the hands and feet of Christ, across the street and around the world.**

Recently, on one of my travels, I noticed a sign at the end of a church driveway which read **“YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD.”** In a very real way entering the *mission field* (and it varies for each of us) is living **outside the box**. It involves making choices and decisions as the above speaks about. In many ways Jesus lived **outside the box**, and at times so must we.

Keep your eyes and ears open! You’ll find many people who need you **outside the box**.

Have a great week!



Monday, April 26

Louise Oliver.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Tuesday, April 27

Special Intentions for Josefa Lopez.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Wednesday, April 28

Special Intentions for M/M David Kundhy on their Wedding Anniversary.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Thursday, April 29

Father Don Hill.....7:30am - Fr. O’Keefe

Friday, April 30

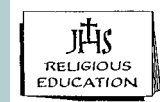
Jimmy Cruciani.....7:30am - Fr. O’Keefe

Saturday, May 1

Alfred Roeske, Sr.....9:00am - Fr. O’Keefe
Joan Burroughs Moody.....5:00pm - Fr. O’Keefe
Spanish Mass.....7:00pm - Fr. Wilson

Sunday, May 2

Mrs. Georgette Martin.....7:30am - Fr. Wilson
Vonnie M. Gossin.....9:00am - Fr. O’Keefe
Parishioners.....11:00am - Fr. Martin
Mafak Sarafa.....12:45pm - Fr. Martin



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

Mass for First Communicants on Saturday, May 1: Group I — 9:00am; Group II — 11:30am.

Religious Education Program Graduation for Seniors — May 2, 6:00pm in the church

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

Mother’s Day, May 9 — Sunday classes only cancelled; classes will be held on Monday, May 10 and Tuesday, May 11.

Final Religious Education classes — Sunday, May 16; Monday, May 17; and Tuesday, May 18.

Evening of Gratitude for Religious Education Program volunteers on Sunday, May 23, 6:00pm in the church.

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; on the Nativity CCD tab click on Student Registration.

The Altar Flowers this week are



In Loving Memory of
Kori A. Posch from The Reinhard Family
And

In Loving Memory of
Ann Marie Warne, Mr. Nguyen Phong Tan and
Mr. John Durkin, Sr.

MOTHER’S DAY NOVENA



A Novena of nine Masses will be said during the month of May for Mothers, living and deceased. Spiritual Bouquet cards may be found in the Church vestibule. Mother’s names will be placed on the Altar during the month of May. The Novena Masses will be said at 7:30 am on the following days: May 12th, 14th, 17th, 19th, 20th, 25th, 27th, 28th. The Mass on May 31st is 9:00 am.

Thought for the Week

If you have fun at your job, I think you’re going to be more effective.

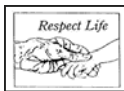
Meg Whitman

“PRIESTLY VESTMENTS” Why Don’t They Change?

The vestments which the priest wears while celebrating Mass date back to the very first days of the Church. When Christians first gathered for liturgy, the presider simply wore his regular street clothes which happened to be flowing robes. Soon, because of the specialness of the liturgies, these garments were purchased by the community, made of fine material, and used only for the liturgies or prayer services. Subsequently some of these garments were then handed down from generation to generation. It was in the fourth century when Christianity became acceptable that these styles became the official vestments to be worn at Mass. There were many articles which made up the presider’s wardrobe at that time. Today, priests are required to vest in an alb, the white robe that reaches to the floor. This alb may or may not be tied around the waist with a cincture. The stole, the long scarf worn over the shoulders, is the most important of the garments. It is the symbol of the Priesthood. It is placed over the alb and this is then covered with the chasuble, a flowing, ornate garment. Chasubles come in the different colors of the Church seasons. For example, red worn on Pentecost, green worn during Ordinary Time, and purple worn during the Lenten Season. Also, chasubles come in various styles with varying amounts of embroidery or trim. This represents the only “change” permitted. In a Church that celebrates an unchanging Faith in an unbroken tradition, vestments preserve the style of our ancient Roman beginnings.

**PRO-LIFE CORNER**

In a nation where we talk of concern for our children’s health and safety, their education, keeping them drug free and protecting them from predators of all types, there is a terrible dark side to our society that tells a mother that it’s okay to destroy her baby if she chooses. Let us pray that through God’s grace the blight of abortion will soon pass away into history, like slavery and other sins of the past. **Choose Life Today. Choose Life Tomorrow. Pray Always. We Must Do No Less.**



Please support the **TEPEYAC FAMILY CENTER**, 11135 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030, 703-273-9440 x 107, with your prayers and financial resources. Info on this pregnancy resource center can be found at www.tepeyacfamilycenter.com

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,

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

BISHOP’S LENTEN APPEAL UPDATE

*** 107% of \$360,000 Goal ***

To date Nativity parishioners have pledged approximately \$385,000, in excess of our BLA goal of \$360,000. Congratulations in meeting this goal !!



Thank-you for helping support Fr. Martin for another successful BLA program. There is still time to contribute to the BLA for 2010 if you wish.

The BLA helps provide vital 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

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 28th, May 12th and 19th in Room 7 at 7:30 pm. 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.

**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 are on sale after Masses every weekend. The drawing is scheduled for May 2nd. The Little Angel Gift Shop has **received a new shipment of books**. They are selling for 40-50% below retail value. Stop by and see what we have. Custom made First Holy Communion veils, ties and gifts are also available. Nativity’s **First Communion is May 1st**.

Tepeyac Family Center (the pro-life OB/GYN facility based in Fairfax, VA) is accepting new patients. With six providers on staff (5 OB/GYN's and a nurse practitioner), Tepeyac welcomes new OB and/or GYN patients seeking excellent healthcare in a family-friendly atmosphere. **For more information or to make an appointment, please call 703-273-9440 or visit us online at www.tepeyacfamilycenter.com**

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 3, 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.

Seeking Facilitators and Potential Participants for Just-Faith's *Engaging Spirituality*

Do you yearn for a deeper, broader spirituality?
Are you willing to walk toward that goal?

If so, we invite you to consider being a facilitator for Engaging Spirituality.

Engaging Spirituality, a new JustFaith Ministries program, offers a transformative process that invites adult Christians to explore the intersection between contemplative presence and social action, as it is lived out in our lives. The process draws on the wisdom and practices of our Catholic Contemplative Tradition for the transformation of our lives and our world. These include: discernment, Lectio Divina, silence, journal-keeping, sacred listening, spiritual reading, Centering Prayer, and social outreach; and are opened and practiced from within a small faith-sharing group, over a 21-week process.

Join us on one of the following dates for a facilitator or potential participant discernment/training day: Saturday, May 22nd at Our Lady, Queen of Peace in Arlington, VA; Saturday, July 17th at Trinity University in Washington, DC

For more information, or to register, contact Ellen Hayes at ellen.es animator@gmail.com or go to the JustFaith Ministries web site: http://justfaith.org/programs/engaging_trainings.html

Action for Immigration Reform

This Sunday, April 25, 2:00-3:30 pm, in the Nativity Parish Hall **V.O.I.C.E. (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement)** will hold an **Action** to highlight the need for comprehensive immigration reform by recognizing the efforts of four young people who have been walking from Florida since January 10th to demonstrate their call for reform. More information about their efforts can be found on the website: <http://trail2010.org/>. If you have questions about **V.O.I.C.E.**, contact: Joe Pettit, 703-455-4937

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

viBE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!! If you are interested in registering your child for VBS, forms are now being accepted and can be found in the Parish office. We are also looking for teen and adult helpers for the week. In addition, we are looking for any teens or young adults who would be interested in doing music for the week. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Meghan O'Connor by email or phone. cvo@nativityschool.org, 703-455-2400 ext 115

There will be a Workcamp meeting on Tuesday, April 27th in the Parish Hall from 7:00pm-8:00pm for all those attending Workcamp this summer! If you have not turned in your youth application and medical form, please bring them to the youth office ASAP. Thank you.

Our next Vibe meeting will be on Sunday May 2nd in the Parish Hall from 7:00pm-8:30pm. Hope to see you there

RETREAT FOR WOMEN: Treat yourself to a weekend at Dominican Retreat in McLean June 4-6 to experience God's peace and presence. Our theme this year is "Nothing can separate us from the love of God" (Romans 8:39). Retreat director Fr. David Centner, OCD, is an adjunct faculty member of Washington Theological Union, associate editor of Spiritual Life magazine, and has a special interest in the connection between contemplative prayer and manual work. For reservations or information call Rena Baker, 703-938-9145, or Dominican Retreat at 703-356-4243, or see www.dominicanretreat.org.

BISHOP IRETON HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP OFFERINGS

Bishop Ireton High School announces it's 2010 summer camp offerings at its Alexandria campus. The variety of camps includes theater, basketball, soccer, football and crew. For a brochure and a registration form please email hamerp@bishopireton.org, or call 703-212-5190.

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

"Nos has hecho para Tí...y nuestro corazón estará inquieto hasta que descansa en Tí." San Agustín

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 May 28-30, 2010. 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 May 19, 2010.** Please call as soon as possible. Dominican Retreat: 703-356-4243 or Doug Sebek, 703-860-4929.

Looking for smaller class size and individualized attention? 6th & 7th grade students and their parents are invited to explore the merits of a Catholic High School Education at Paul VI Catholic High School on **Thursday April 29th at 7:00pm.** Meet the Principal, Administration, Faculty and Students. Get a jump start on your future and see for yourself what makes PVI a special place.



Sunday, April 25 Catholic Home Missions Appeal

- 2:00, 4:00, 6:00 pm.....CCD Classes (S)
- 7:00 pm.....Troop 1100 Committee Mtg. (Room 6)
- 7:30 pm.....All Catechist's Workshop (CH)

Monday, April 26

- 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 27

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

Wednesday, April 28

- 10:00 am.....Mom & Me (APR)
- 7:00 pm.....Hispanic Prayer Group (Room 6)
- 7:00 pm.....ESL (Room 5)
- 7:30 pm.....Fr. O'Keefe's Confirmation Class (Room 7)
- 7:30 pm.....Evening Bible Study (Room 9)
- 7:30 pm.....BSA Troop 1100 (PH)

Thursday, April 29

- 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)
- 7:00 pm.....BSA Troop 1100 Board of Review (Room 6)
- 7:30 pm.....Prayer Group (APR)
- 7:30 pm.....Venture Crew (Room 4)

Friday, April 30 Arbor Day

- 4:00 pm.....Daisy Troop 6116 (APR)
- 6:00 pm.....GS Troop 2948 (Room 4)

Saturday, May 1

- 9:00 am.....First Holy Communion (CH/PH)
- 10:00 am.....ESL (Rooms 5,6,7,8)
- 10:00 am.....Dog Obedience Class (PL)
- 11:30 am.....First Holy Communion (CH/PH)
- 5:00 pm.....Hispanic CCD (S)

The Continuing Christian Development Institute (CCDI) will offer four, 4-week, mini- courses at regional parish locations starting in late April. Please join us. For more information, please check the bulletin board. **Discounted tuition of \$ 180 per course (which also covers all class distributions and notes). 10% Discounts for SENIORS or ACCOMPANYING SPOUSES. For further information and Applications: Contact Dr. William J. Tobin, CCDI Director at CCDIofVA@aol.com, or 703-941-4329.**