

QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

4401 Sano Street, Alexandria, VA 22312 (703) 354-8711 www.queenofapostles.org

Fifth Sunday of Lent - March 21, 2021



CLERGY

Fr. Alexander Díaz, Pastor
Fr. Joseph Rampino, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Richard C. Caporiccio
Deacon Vincent Kapral

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 8:00 am, 5:00 & 7:00 pm (*Spanish*)
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm
1:30 pm (*Spanish*) 3:00 pm (*Ghana Community Mass*)
Monday-Friday: 6:30 & 9:00 am

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Wednesday: 8:30-9:00 am
Thursday: 7:00 pm until last penitent
Friday: 6:30 pm until last penitent
Saturday: 3:30 pm until last penitent

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday 8:30 am-8pm
Thursday: 7:00-8:00 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri, 9:30 am-12 pm; 12:30 pm to 5 pm



QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FAITH, EXCELLENCE, JOY

4409 Sano Street
Alexandria, VA 22312
www.queenofapostlesschool.org

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS:

Mon – Thurs, 8:00 am – 3:15 pm
Friday, 8:00 am – 2:15 pm

STAFF

Anne Arias, Principal
Maria Fox, Secretary
Fr. Joseph Rampino,
Chaplain
Phone: (703) 354-0714



With Mary, “the first disciple of her son” (Redemptoris Mater, 20), Queen of Apostles Catholic School is rooted in faith, excellence, and joy. We flourish by embracing our call to holiness, advancing in virtue and academics, and cultivating the many talents God has given us.

Est. 1966

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear brothers in Christ Jesus:

We are celebrating the Fifth Sunday of Lent, the Sunday before the beginning of Holy Week. I am sure that our hearts are more than ready to celebrate the Easter holidays. A phrase from this Sunday's Gospel catches my attention when some Greeks go in search of Jesus and ask Philip, "We want to see Jesus" (Jn 12:21). What it means to see Jesus is more than just looking at Him and knowing Him. Seeing Jesus is entering totally into His way of thinking; it means understanding why He had to suffer and die to be resurrected. Like the wheat grain, Jesus Christ has to give up everything, including His own life, to bring life for Himself and many others. If we don't grasp this as the core of Christ's life, then we haven't really seen Him. We can only see Jesus through death through the Cross with which He brings many fruits for all ages. To "see Jesus" means surrendering to an undeserved death that brings the gifts of faith and salvation to humanity (cf. Jn 12: 25-26).

As I mentioned in the previous letter, this coming Monday, the 22nd, we will have our Lenten Penance Service. As a parish, it is good that we have a day for reconciliation. We will be 6 priests who will be listening to confessions. We will begin with an act of forgiveness, reflection, and a community examination of conscience, and then we will begin hearing confessions. I hope you make an effort and participate.

On March 25th, "The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord," I want to invite you to participate in a special Mass in thanksgiving for my fifteen years of priesthood. Fifteen years ago, the Lord confirmed His call with my priestly ordination, a time that I have dedicated to working in this diocese. Some of my brother priests will come to concelebrate with me. In this same celebration, we will conclude the novena for life that the Knights of Columbus promote each year. It will be an honor to thank God with you.

Also, I want you to mark your calendars with the Easter activities schedule; this year, we will not do any bilingual celebration due to the pandemic restrictions. On Palm Sunday, the masses will be regular hours, and we will not have any processions. On Holy Thursday, we will have two Masses, 5:00 pm in English and 7:00 pm in Spanish; the Eucharistic procession will be held after the 7:00 pm Mass. To keep our social distance and be able to be with the Lord, we will make the Altar of Repose in Hannan Hall. It will be there for worship until midnight. On Good Friday, the day of penance and reflection, we will have confessions in the morning, Stations of the Cross in English at noon, and the services of the Passion in English at 3:00 pm, at 6:00 pm, we will pray the Stations of the Cross in Spanish and the services of the Passion at 7:00 pm. On Saturday night, we will celebrate the Easter Vigil in English at 8:30 pm and Spanish at 11:30 pm. I have decided to make these changes so that you can participate without fear and to make our return to the house of the Lord more comfortable as possible. Remember that Easter is a time to reflect on our own conversion.

Finally, I invite you to visit our small parish gift shop and help us to promote it. We already have for sale some items that may interest you for your formation and spiritual growth.

God Bless you,

Fr. Alex

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Holy Thursday

5:00 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper (*English*)
7:00 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper (*Spanish*)

Good Friday

12:00 pm - Stations of the Cross (*English*)
3:00 pm - Passion of the Lord (*English*)
6:00 pm - Stations of the Cross (*Spanish*)
7:00 pm - Passion of the Lord (*Spanish*)

Holy Saturday

8:00 pm - Easter Vigil (*English*)
11:30 pm - Easter Vigil (*Spanish*)

Easter Sunday

8:00 am - Mass (*English*)
10:00 am - Mass (*English*)
12:00 pm - Mass (*English*)
1:30 pm - Mass (*Spanish*)



Religious Education Information

We follow Fairfax County Public Schools on closures related to snowy weather. Students may be assigned homework during snowy weather or when class do not meet.

As you plan for Easter break, we ask you again respectfully to be extra cautious and consider the risk of being around people outside your immediate family or going to high risk areas as noted by CDC. Although COVID-19 cases are in the decline, schools are still being impacted by COVID-19 cases. We want to do our best to keep our Religious Education Program at the school open and safe. As a reminder, if your child(ren) or anyone who resides at your home or anyone who has direct contact with your child(ren) travels outside the country, your child(ren) may not return for in-person instruction for 14 days. If you plan to travel to a high risk area such as an amusement park (e.g. Disney World), we ask you to take extra precautions and keep us informed.

Religious Education classes will not meet **Mar 28** (Palm Sunday) or **Apr 4** (Easter Sunday), however, students may have homework/ projects to complete for the **Apr 11** class.

Religious Education students who were Confirmed on Feb 22 are to continue attending classes through **May 30, 2021**. Certificates will be distributed during the last class. Pictures from the Feb 22 Confirmation Mass may be viewed/ordered at the parish office during the week. Contact Susan Gray (s.gray@queenofapostles.org or 703-354-8711) to arrange a time to view the photos.

Please pray for our 3 student catechumens (The Elect - "the chosen ones" — "chosen for baptism by God"), who are preparing to receive the Three Sacraments of Initiation and enter the Catholic Church at Easter: *Jeison, Jennifer, Elias*.

Students and adults, along with his/her godparents/ sponsors, who desire the Three Sacraments of Initiation, are to attend the Third Scrutiny and Presentation of the Our Father scheduled for **Mar 21 during the 12 noon Mass**. The rehearsal for the students, RCIA-English, and sponsors is **Tues, Mar 23 at 7pm** in the church.

Infant Baptisms at Queen of Apostles



Infant Baptisms are held twice a month on Saturdays: Spanish on the **First Saturday at 10:30 am** (except for April which will be on the second Saturday) and English on the **Third Saturday at 10:30 am**.

Baptism Classes for parents and godparents are held twice a month on Wednesdays: English Classes on the **First Wednesday at 7:30 pm** and Spanish Classes on the **Third Wednesday at 7:30 pm**. Both are held in Hannan Hall.

Altar Servers - Serving Our Lord in the Eucharist

Parents of active altar servers were sent the liturgy schedule for Holy Week and Easter. Please let Susan Gray know what Masses/liturgies your son/s can serve. On Apr 17 at 1pm, Fr. Rampino will lead another training/refresher for new, newer, and seasoned altar servers. If your son will attend the training and is willing to serve at Holy Mass on Sundays (8am, 10am, 12noon) and other Masses, please send a message to s.gray@queenofapostles.org or talk with Fr. Rampino. Boys who are serving Mass are asked to arrive no less than 15 min before Mass, wear dress shoes, bring a face mask, use the upper sacristy, and wait for the priest.

Sts. John Berchmans and Tarcisius, pray for us.

RCIA

The Easter Vigil rehearsal for RCIA-English candidates and sponsors is **Tues, Mar 23 at 7pm** in the church.

Please pray for Sadrac who is preparing to receive the Three Sacraments of Initiation at Easter, and our candidates who are preparing and desiring to complete their initiation through the Sacraments of Confirmation/Eucharist or to be received into full communion of the Catholic Church.

RCIA classes continue to meet until **June 2021**.

Joining Our Parish Family



Welcome to Queen of Apostles! We warmly invite you to join our parish family. So that you might receive all of our parish communications, and so that our clergy and staff may respond appropriately to your various sacramental needs, we encourage you to register at Queen of Apostles through the Parish Office or on our website queenofapostles.org Parish registration forms are available in the Church vestibule and at the Parish Office, located at 4329 Sano Street.

Please notify the Parish Office of any family status changes or if you have moved outside the parish by contacting (703) 354-8711 ext. 10, or general@queenofapostles.org

✝ PARISH LIFE ✝

Masses This Week

Fifth Sunday of Lent - Sunday, March 21:

8:00 am +Ed Constantino
10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm +Alisa Jo Leite
1:30 pm +Juana Hernandez Ramirez

Monday, March 22:

6:30 am +Lois Mae Filzen
9:00 am +Joseph Barnoski

St. Turebius - Tuesday, March 23:

6:30 am +John Battaglia
9:00 am +Dominador Catain

Wednesday, March 24:

6:30 am +Ed Constantino
9:00 am +Willmer Moseman

The Annunciation - Thursday, March 25:

6:30 am +Maile Duggan Family
9:00 am (L) Fr. Alexander Diaz
7:00 pm (L) Fr. Alexander Diaz

Friday, March 26:

6:30 am +Antonio Belzarena
9:00 am (L) Jim Downey

Saturday, March 27:

8:00 am +Ed Constantino
5:00 pm +Leo Weston
7:00 pm (L) Fr. Alexander Diaz

Have you signed up for Parish electronic giving through Faith Direct? To join Faith Direct, start by simply focusing your phone camera on this QR code! You can also visit faithdirect.net and enroll online using our Parish code: **VA234**



FAITH DIRECT®
inspiring secure giving®

Thank you for your support!

Lenten Schedule Please join us for our upcoming Lenten devotions here at Queen of Apostles:



- ◇ "Light is on For You" program, we will add Confessions **every Wednesday at 6:30 pm** in the Adoration Chapel.
- ◇ The Holy Way of the Cross will take place in the Church in English on **Fridays at 5:30 pm** and **7:30 pm** in Spanish.

Penance Service We will have a Lenten Penance Service on **March 22** beginning at **7 pm**. We will have 6 priests hearing confessions and Music will also be provided. Please consider taking this opportunity and be open to God's love and grace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent.

Legion of Mary Arlington Regia Acies

Ceremony March 27, 2021 at 12 pm at St. Mary of Sorrows. The ceremony consists of an annual renewal of Consecration of Legionaries to our Blessed Mother with Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Rev. Francis Peffley Arlington Regia Spiritual Director and Assistant, Rev. John Melmer will officiate. This year no reception will follow. Questions, please call Bro. Jim Bailey at (703) 354-1832

Legion of Mary Praises of Mary:

Mary is the Mother of God, Our Savior. She has co-operated in the mysteries of His earthly career: In conceiving Him, in bringing Him forth, in nourishing Him, in presenting Him in the Temple, in sharing His dying agony. She has contributed towards the restoration of supernatural life to souls. For all these reasons, it would be equally allowable to describe her role as one of "mediation", "patronage", "intercession", and even "co-redemption".



Meetings on **Thursdays, 6:00 pm**, Parish Center



Help us celebrate Father's Ordination Anniversary!

Please fill out the Spiritual bouquet provided in the bulletin and leave it in the basket in the vestibule or bring it to the Parish Office.

Mass will be celebrated on the Feast of the Annunciation (March 25) at 7 pm. We hope to see you there!

Gospel Commentary for Fifth Sunday of Lent: For Love's Sake Only

By Fr. Joseph Rampino

"Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat, but if it dies, it produces much fruit." With these words, Christ describes the logic of His coming Passion to his Apostles. This truth, that in order to preserve our lives, we must be willing to lose them for Christ's sake, and that if we wish to preserve them, holding on to what is ours in the world to the end, we will lose everything, is indeed a hard truth, both to understand and accept. In fact, based on misunderstanding of this teaching, many have criticized and rejected Christianity as a religion that glorifies suffering, that encourages self-hatred, and that opposes by nature human efforts at growth and healthy flourishing. Modern secularists still perceive the Christian faith, with its insistence of self-sacrifice and mortification, as a religion of deprivation, a belief in a grand "no" in the face of all that is most pleasant and beautiful.

It is, of course, not only the secular world that sees Christianity this way. We too, as good Catholics, can sometimes get caught up in a certain form of piety that does in fact glorify suffering in a strange way. We too can make the assumption that penance is good for its own sake, that self-denial is primarily a necessary means of self-punishment for sin and its consequences, and that we become truly excellent and worthwhile Christians once we have sufficiently paid the price of discipline. While the secular world sees this as destructive, we can sometimes see it as the true path of faith. Even when we do not believe this way, we may at least hear in the back of our minds the exacting voice of glorified suffering, telling us that we are not permitted to be at peace, and it's not quite religion until it hurts.

To think in any of these ways, however, is not to think as a Christian. We must remember that the sufferings of Jesus, the moment when He offers His life to death for our sake, take place in the context of His loving relationship with the Father. He does all things, as He says elsewhere in the Gospels "so that the world might know that I love the Father." Further, this love Jesus has for the Father comes from knowing the Father's love for Him, in which the Father gives to the Son everything that is His. Christ our God suffers as He does because He forgets Himself in love for the one who has loved Him. He falls to the ground and dies because His whole life is already consumed in the fire of love.

This is also our calling. We do not lose our lives in this world for no purpose. We lose them as a result of forgetting ourselves in the love of Christ, which we receive and return. We do not carry our crosses out of a belief that we deserve pain, and that pain is good for us, but rather because we wish to follow closely the Lord who loved us first, and that means following Him through His Passion. We do not give ourselves in God's service simply because duty is duty and good citizens serve, out of a bare sense of obligation, but rather because we have received to the point of self-forgetfulness, and we seek to offer the love we have known to others who need it. All things Christian begin and end in the love of God. Fidelity to this love will, certainly, bring about suffering as our attachments to the world are shorn, as our desires are purified, and as our hearts are stretched enough to receive the gift of God Himself, but these are the suffering and death that come from love's longing, and that bring life wherever they take root. We die only the death of love, which is in fact true life. May this understanding suffuse all our sacrifices this Passiontide with the tenderness of divine charity, and the joy of losing ourselves in love Himself.



Have you committed to our Capital Campaign?

There is much to be done to maintain our Parish facilities, and you could help make it all possible. Please prayerfully consider either making a pledge or a one-time gift if you have not already done so. Those who were sent letters in November/December who have not yet pledged have been receiving phone calls from our Continuation Committee to provide more information on how their contributions will help with essential renovations and safety upgrades in our beautiful Church. Installments can be made through Faith Direct, PayPal, and other forms of electronic giving as well as by check. We sincerely thank you for your generosity.



Please pray for all of the sick members of our parish

Jin C. Navarro, Leo Monterroso, Etelvina León-Duarte, Ginny Cook, Olivia Castillo Asnis, Maria Reyes, Anna Anderson, Jean McDermott, Anne Kemble, Virginia Shea, Joseph Lipari, Rosa María Santos, Carmelita Mate, Leonor Cabrestane, Roger Trozado, Jeanie Miller, Maddie Respicio-Cabatic, Helen Brooks, Charles Ferris, Dominic Blansett, Linda Intihar, Melencio Morales, Reyes Duran, Luong Bui, Nick Tullier, Rose Maalouf, Nicole Pack, Barbara J. Banis, Numa Osuna, Jr., Timmy Burnway, Mark Bush, Margaret Peiffer, Rita Sulit, Jason Banis, Emma Collins, Juana Mejia, Lisa Nyce, Monique Brooks, Debby Spracht, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlynn, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Russ and Jill Amerling, Richard Esterlund, Margaret Fiore, Michael Robertson, Jocelyn Reyes, Wilma Robles, Maryann McNutt, Yolanda Arzadon, and those who have been affected by the coronavirus.

CARTA DEL PÁRROCO

Queridos hermanos en Cristo Jesús:

Estamos celebrando el quinto domingo de Cuaresma, el domingo previo al inicio de la Semana Santa, estoy seguro que nuestros corazones están más que preparados para celebrar las fiestas de la pascua. Me llama la atención una frase del evangelio de este domingo, cuando unos griegos van en busca de Jesús y preguntan a Felipe, “queremos ver a Jesús” (Jn.12, 21). Que significa ver a Jesús, es más que simplemente mirarle y conocerle, Ver a Jesús” es entrar totalmente en su modo de pensar; significa entender por qué Él tenía que sufrir y morir para resucitar. Como el grano de trigo, Jesucristo tiene que dejarlo todo, incluso su propia vida, para poder traer vida para Él y para muchos otros. Si no captamos esto como el núcleo de la vida de Cristo, entonces no le hemos visto realmente. Sólo podemos ver a Jesús a través de la muerte mediante la Cruz con la cual Él trae muchos frutos para todos los siglos. “Ver a Jesús” quiere decir rendirse ante una inmerecida muerte que trae los dones de la fe y de la salvación para la humanidad (cf. Jn 12,25-26).

Como les mencione en la carta anterior el próximo lunes 22 tendremos el acto penitencial de cuaresma, como parroquia es bueno que tengamos un día parroquial para la reconciliación, seremos 6 sacerdotes que estaremos escuchando confesiones. Iniciaremos con un acto de perdón, reflexión y examen de conciencia comunitario, luego iremos a escuchar las confesiones. Espero que hagan un esfuerzo y participen.

También quiero invitarles a participar en una misa especial que celebrare el 25 de marzo “Solemnidad de la Anunciación del Señor” en acción de gracias por mis 15 años de sacerdocio, hace quince años el Señor confirmo su llamada con la ordenación sacerdotal, tiempo que he dedicado a trabajar en esta diócesis, algunos de mis amigos sacerdotes vendrán a concelebrar con migo, También en esta misma celebración culminaremos la novena por la vida que los caballeros de colon impulsan cada año, será un honor dar gracias a Dios con ustedes.

Finalmente. Quiero que pongan en sus calendarios los horarios de las actividades de Semana Santa, este año por las restricciones de la pandemia no haremos ninguna celebración bilingüe. El domingo de Ramos las misas serán en horario normal y no tendremos ninguna procesión, el jueves Santo tendremos dos misas, 5:00pm en inglés y 7:00pm en español, la procesión eucarística la realizaremos después de la misa de 7:00pm. Para guardar la distancia social y poder estar con el Señor, haremos un altar especial en Hannan Hall y ahí nos quedaremos en adoración hasta la media noche. El Viernes Santo, día de penitencia y reflexión, tendremos confesiones por la mañana, viacrucis en ingles al medio día, y los oficios de la pasión en ingles a las 3:00pm, a las 6:00pm rezaremos el vía crucis en español y los oficios a las 7:00pm. El sábado por la noche, celebraremos la Vigilia Pascual en ingles a las 8:30pm y en español a las 11:30pm. He decido hacer estos cambios para que puedan participar sin miedo, y poco a poco podamos ir regresando a la casa del Señor. Recuerden que semana Santa es un tiempo para reflexionar en nuestra propia conversión.

Finalmente les invito a que visiten nuestra pequeña librería parroquial y nos ayuden a impulsarla, ya tenemos a la venta algunos artículos que les pueden interesar para su formación y crecimiento espiritual

P. Alex

Horario de Semana Santa

El Jueves Santo

5:00 pm - Misa de la Cena del Señor (*en inglés*)
7:00 pm - Misa de la Cena del Señor (*en español*)

El Viernes Santo

12:00 pm - El Via Crucis (*en inglés*)
3:00 pm - La Pasión del Cristo (*en inglés*)
6:00 pm - El Via Crucis (*en español*)
7:00 pm - La Pasión del Cristo (*en español*)

El Sábado Santo

8:00 pm - Misa vigilia Pascual (*en inglés*)
11:30 pm - Misa vigilia Pascual (*en español*)

Domingo de Pascua

8:00 am - Misa (*en inglés*)
10:00 am - Misa (*en inglés*)
12:00 pm - Misa (*en inglés*)
1:30 pm - Misa (*en español*)

Misas esta semana

Domingo 21 de marzo:

8:00 am +Ed Constantino
10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm +Alisa Jo Leite
1:30 pm +Juana Hernandez Ramirez

Lunes 22 de marzo:

6:30 am +Lois Mae Filzen
9:00 am +Joseph Barnoski

Martes 23 de marzo:

6:30 am +John Battaglia
9:00 am +Dominador Catain

Miércoles 24 de marzo:

6:30 am +Ed Constantino
9:00 am +Willmer Moseman

Jueves 25 de marzo:

6:30 am +Maile Duggan Family
9:00 am (L) Fr. Alexander Diaz
7:00 pm (L) Fr. Alexander Diaz

Viernes 26 de marzo:

6:30 am +Antonio Belzarena
9:00 am (L) Jim Downey

Sabado 27 de marzo:

8:00 am +Ed Constantino
5:00 pm +Leo Weston
7:00 pm (L) Fr. Alexander Diaz



P. Alexander Diaz

¡Ayúdanos a celebrar el
Aniversario de Ordenación del
Padre Díaz!

Por favor complete el ramo espiritual
proporcionado en el boletín y déjelo
en la canasta en el vestíbulo o tráigalo
a la Oficina Parroquial.

La Misa se celebrará en la Fiesta de
la Anunciación, el 25 de marzo, a las
7 pm. ¡Esperamos verlos!

CENACULO DE ORACIÓN MDJ

"Tén Fe" en el Señor Jesús y te salvarás tú y tu casa.

HECHOS 16.31

**Todos los Sábados
5:00pm**

**4401 SANO ST. ALEXANDRIA VA 22312
EN EL HANNAN HALL DE LA PARROQUIA
REINA DE LOS APÓSTOLES**

**INTERESADOS CONTACTAR CON
LOS HERMANOS:**

**ALEX ORELLANA (571) 309 8207
VÍCTOR POSADA (703) 585 3876**

Te invitamos:



COMUNIDAD MISIONEROS DE JESÚS PARROQUIA REINA DE LOS APÓSTOLES

Horario de Cuaresma Por favor, únase a nosotros para nuestras próximas devociones cuaresmales aquí en Queen of Apostles:



- ◇ El programa "La luz está encendida para ti", añadiremos Confesiones todos **los miércoles a las 6:30 pm** en la Capilla de adoración.
- ◇ El Via Crucis tendrá lugar en la Iglesia en inglés **los viernes a las 5:30 pm y 7:30 pm** en español.

Servicio de Penitencia Cuaresma Tendremos un Servicio de Penitencia Cuaresma el **22 de marzo** a partir de las 7:00 pm. Tendremos 6 sacerdotes escuchando confesiones y también se proporcionará música. Por favor, considere aprovechar esta oportunidad y estar abierto al amor y la gracia de Dios en el sacramento de la reconciliación esta Cuaresma.

Horario de bautizos Los bautizos en español están programados para el primer sábado del mes a las 10:30 am. Debido a que el Sábado Santo cae el primer sábado de este año, los bautizos en español serán el **10 de abril**.

