

QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Third Sunday of Lent - March 7, 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 friends in Christ,

Incredibly, we are already in the month of March! It has been a year since the pandemic started, and everything changed for us almost completely because it largely took away the joy of sharing, of greeting each other freely, of meeting as groups in the faith, among other things. It was almost robbing us of our sacramental life and liturgical meetings because many have not yet returned to share their lives of faith due to the pandemic of fear and mistrust. We know that many have gone ahead of us because of the virus, other brothers have suffered the virus's consequences, but the vast majority are well, thanks to God and His Divine Mercy.

After a year since all this began, we must consider what we have learned as Christians and what teachings God has left us with during this time. Personally, I have learned to value life, family, friends, all those who surround me. I have to value you more because I miss sharing with you as parishioners, approaching without fear, without complexes and precautions, and what is most beautiful, to value the smile and the beauty of life that God has manifested in our faces. I invite you to continue praying that this will end soon and that we will soon return to living our life of faith with freedom. However, I invite you all to return gradually to the daily Masses and Sunday Masses. It is time to begin to overcome fear. I guarantee that our Sanctuary is sufficiently disinfected for you, the only thing I ask is that you wear your mask; I know some are reluctant to do so, at least I ask you to do it as a Lenten sacrifice, and I remind you that pride, arrogance, and disobedience are also a sin.

I want to invite you to the Morning of Reflection that we will have on March 13 in English and March 20 in Spanish. We will do it in the Sanctuary, and it will be a morning of recollection of faith in preparation for the celebration of Easter. We will start with the Mass at 8:00 am, then we will expose the Blessed Sacrament, we will pray the Holy Rosary, then we will have one or two short reflections, while some priests will be confessing in case someone wishes to do so; I hope many can attend. If you cannot attend for any reason, mark your calendars for the penitential service that we will have on the 22nd, the Monday before Easter. Therefore there are no excuses for not being in God's grace this Easter.

I also want to congratulate the twenty-three children who made their first confession last Saturday. They were all very punctual and well prepared; this means that parents and catechists are doing their job very well. I was pleased to see the enthusiasm and the seriousness with which they received the sacrament. Hopefully, in their lives, they do not change, and they continue to do it with much more love and devotion.

Finally, I remind you that our religious gift shop is already open. For now, there is not much to offer, but I would be grateful if you could help us, giving us ideas of what items you would like us to offer for your spiritual benefit. For now, there are already devotionals, rosaries, and other religious articles. It will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Please stop by the parish office and ask one of our secretaries for help.

Have a happy week. I have you in my prayers.

Fr. Alex



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ONE ANOTHER
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FAITH FORMATION



Religious Education Information

Religious Education families are invited to attend the Penance Service at Queen of Apostles, **Monday, March 22, 7-9pm**. Parish and other diocesan priests will hear Confessions.

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.

Congratulations to our 27 Religious Education/homeschooled students who made First Penance on Feb 27! We encourage families to go to Confession regularly (monthly) and celebrate the Sacrament of Healing. These students are now preparing to receive our Lord in the Eucharist in May.

Please continue to pray for our 3 student catechumens (now called 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.

On the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent, special Rites call Scrutinies take place during Mass.

Students and adults, along with his/her godparents/sponsors, who desire the Three Sacraments of Initiation are to attend the Scrutinies scheduled for **Mar 7, 14, 21** during the 12 noon Mass.

What is a Scrutiny? The scrutinies are meant to uncover, and then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. For the scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. These rites, therefore, should complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all.

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, 141)

Safety Guidelines



We continue to be vigilant and intentional as we strive to stay healthy. Before coming to RE on Sunday mornings, please monitor for coronavirus and flu symptoms.

If symptoms develop, please contact your Primary Health Care Provider immediately, do not attend Religious Education class, and send a message to s.gray@queenofapostles.org. Thank you for your partnership in taking extra precautions to keep Queen of Apostles parish, school, and Religious Education communities safe and healthy.

St. Joseph, pray for us!

RCIA

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**.

Altar Servers—Serving our Lord in the Eucharist



If your son is willing to serve at Holy Mass on Sundays (8am, 10am, 12noon) and other Masses, and join our 16 other servers, please send a message to Susan Gray at s.gray@queenofapostles.org or talk with Fr. Rampino. Boys 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.

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

Third Sunday of Lent - Sunday, March 7:

8:00 am +Kanwar Chaudhri
 10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
 12:00 pm +Grace Okemo
 1:30 pm +Jose Samuel de la Zerda Caero & Nora Beatrice Mercado de la Zerda

St. John of God - Monday, March 8:

6:30 am (L) Abraham Ahakuelo Family
 9:00 am +Willmer Moseman

St. Frances of Rome - Tuesday, March 9:

6:30 am +Alma Gabarda
 9:00 am +James Downey

Wednesday, March 10:

6:30 am +Teresita Andaya
 9:00 am Special Intention

Thursday, March 11:

6:30 am (L) Macrina Han
 9:00 am +Matthew James Quinn

Friday, March 12:

6:30 am (L) Daisy Lung Family
 9:00 am +Ed Constantino

Saturday, March 13:

8:00 am +Juan Rodas Flores
 5:00 pm +Edgardo Constantino
 7:00 pm +Oswaldo Marim



March 9 - St. Frances of Rome

St. Frances of Rome lived from 1384 to 1440. She is patron saint for widows and oblates. Born to a wealthy family, she ran afoul of her father when she decided to become a nun. Instead, he married her off at age 13 to Lorenzo Ponziani, a wealthy young noble who was in love with her. In 1425, Frances founded the Oblates of Mary, a lay order of women serving the Benedictines. Although remaining in the world, the women vowed to serve the poor. They operated a house for widowed members. She also started a monastery eight years later at Tor de Specchi. Frances is the patron saint of the Oblates and was canonized by Pope Paul V in 1608. Pope Pius XI made her patron saint for vehicle drivers because she had an angel light her way by legend.

40 Cans for 40 Days Challenge Returns!

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus in cooperation with Queen of Apostles Catholic School. Attention school students! Each school day bring ONE can of food to school, then take it with you to morning prayers in the gymnasium and place it in your class box. You can win "Dress Down Day" OR a Pizza Lunch! The challenge started Ash **Wednesday, February 17th** and ends **Holy Thursday, April 1st**.

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**



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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**.
- ◇ Lenten Morning of Recollection - in English on **March 13th from 9 am to 12 pm** in the Church and in Spanish on **March 20th from 9 am to 12 pm** in Hannan Hall.
- ◇ Vocations Holy Hour on **March 4th at 7 pm**

Women's Group We will hold our first monthly meeting of the year on **Wednesday, March 10th at 10:00 am** in Hannan Hall. Our speaker will be Susan Gray, Director of Religious Education. We look forward to hearing about the program at Queen of Apostles. We hope to see you there!

Men's Evening of Recollection All men are invited to a monthly evening of prayer on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7pm. Confessions, a spiritual talk, Eucharistic Adoration, and social time. This month, the Holy Hour will be on Thursday, March 18 at 7:00 PM at St Louis Church. For more information, please contact either Bert Kalisch (202-528-7589) or Rick Fiesel (703-772-8580).

Legion of Mary *Praises of Mary:* Jesus Christ, after having giving us all he could give, that is to say, the merit of his toils, his sufferings, and his bitter death; after having given us his Adorable Body and Blood to be the Food of our souls, willed also to give us the most precious thing he had left, which was His Holy Mother. Curé d' Ars



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

Gospel Commentary by Fr. Joseph Rampino for Third Sunday of Lent:

For God Alone

With Lent well underway, it is more than fitting for us to consider Christ's shocking act of cleansing the Jerusalem Temple as presented us in John's Gospel this week. As we reach further into the heart of this holy season, we watch as Christ reclaims His Father's house for its original purpose. He drives out everything that is ordered towards the concerns of the world, and leaves behind a place for the concerns of God alone. While we may be used to seeing this scene as a simple condemnation of religious hypocrisy or as a precursor to Christ's Passion, during which His persecutors would bring forward the event as evidence against Him, far more is at stake in this passage. In a veiled way, Christ simultaneously teaches the people of the holy city that He alone, in the temple of His own flesh, is the true place where people may worship the Father rightly and completely, and foretells His own resurrection from the dead as the ultimate sign of His divine authority.

For our purposes this Lent, however, the cleansing also teaches us something about our own souls. In Baptism, we ourselves become, in Christ, true temples of the Blessed Trinity, in which heaven and earth meet, and harmony comes into the world through the right worship of God. Or, rather, that is what we are supposed to become through a life lived with God. Just as the Jerusalem Temple was supposed to be a place entirely for God, where His peace was would become a blessing for the whole world, so we were each supposed to become places set aside for God alone. Yet, just as Christ found that the business of the world had claimed a place in the ancient Temple, He sometimes finds that our hearts are given over to things other than the love of God and of our neighbor. So then, as He cleansed the Temple to bring it back into its intended state, He looks to cleanse our souls, driving out from them whatever is not made over to the worship of the Father.

What does Christ wish to cleanse away? Anything in our lives that is not directed to or subordinate to the love of God. If there is anything in our lives that we love more than God, that we think about more than our life with God, that concerns us more than delighting in God, Christ looks to drive it out of us. Whether those obstacles are our sins, attachment to position, advancement, honor, or respect, desire for getting and possessing material goods, too much love of pleasure, deep fears or sorrows, any sense of misplaced guilt, or spiritual wounds that we carry, Christ looks to drive them from our souls and leave them in the peace necessary to worship God well. It is only once Christ has returned us fully to our intended state as pure Temples of the Trinity that we will know real tranquility and joy of heart.

This reading, then, brings us to the heart of Lent's purpose. The reason we deny ourselves, the reason we fast, pray, and give alms, is not that we should punish ourselves for our sins, or that we should undertake some kind of spiritual self-improvement project, but so that we can give Christ Himself the space to make of us what we were always intended to be: beings capable of divine love. If we have the courage to endure this purification, then we will become fitting Temples of holy love, radiating Easter joy here on earth, and forever in heaven.



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 will be receiving a phone call 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 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 Sprah, 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

CARTA DEL PÁRROCO

Queridos amigos en Cristo,

Increíble, ya estamos en el mes de marzo, hace ya un año que la pandemia inicio y que la vida nos cambió casi por completo, porque nos quitó en gran medida la alegría de compartir, de saludarnos con libertad, de reunirnos como grupos en la fe, y casi nos está robando la vida sacramental y las reuniones litúrgicas, porque muchos aún no han regresado a compartir su vida de fe, por la pandemia del miedo y la desconfianza. Sabemos que por causa del virus muchos se nos adelantaron, otros hermanos han sufrido las secuelas de la infección, pero la gran mayoría estamos bien, gracias a Dios y a Su misericordia divina.

Después de un año de que todo esto inicio, es importante que nos planteemos como Cristianos que hemos aprendido, que enseñanza nos ha dejado Dios durante todo este tiempo, en lo personal he aprendido a valorar la vida, la familia, los amigos todos aquellos que nos rodean, tengo que valorarles más a ustedes porque extraño el compartir con ustedes como feligreses, acercarme sin miedo, sin complejos y precauciones y lo que es más bello, a valorar la sonrisa y la belleza de la vida que Dios nos ha manifestado en nuestros rostros. Les invito a que sigamos orando para que esto termine pronto y que pronto volvamos a vivir nuestra vida de fe con libertad. Mas sin embargo les invito a todos a que regresen poco a poco a las misas diarias y a las misas dominicales, es tiempo de comenzar a vencer el miedo, les garantizo que nuestro templo está lo suficientemente desinfectado para ustedes, lo único que les pido es que usen sus mascarillas, sé que algunos se resisten a hacerlo, al menos les pido que lo hagan como un sacrificio de cuaresma, y les recuerdo que el orgullo, la arrogancia y la desobediencia también son un pecado.

Quiero invitarles para la mañana de reflexión que tendremos el 13 de Marzo que inglés y el 20 en español, lo haremos en el templo, será una mañana de recogimiento en la fe como preparación para la celebración de la Pascua; iniciaremos con la Eucaristía a las 8:00am, luego expondremos el santísimo, rezaremos el Santo Rosario, luego tendremos una o dos reflexiones cortas, mientras algunos sacerdotes estarán confesando por si alguien desea hacerlo; espero que muchos puedan asistir. Si por cualquier motivo no pueden asistir, pongan en sus calendarios el servicio penitencial que tendremos el día 22, un lunes antes de la Semana Santa, por tanto no hay excusas para no estar en gracia de Dios esta semana Santa.

También quiero felicitar a los veinte y tres niños que hicieron su primera confesión el pasado sábado, estuvieron todos muy puntuales y bien preparados; eso quiere decir que los padres de familia y los catequistas están haciendo su trabajo muy bien. Me alegro mucho ver el entusiasmo de mucho y la seriedad con que se tomaron el sacramento, ojala en el transcurso de sus vidas no cambien y continúen haciéndolo con mucho más amor y devoción

Finalmente, les recuerdo que nuestra tienda religiosa ya está abierta, por ahora no hay mucho que ofrecer, pero que quiero que nos ayuden, dándonos ideas de que artículos les gustaría que les trajéramos para su provecho espiritual, por ahora ya hay devocionarios, rosarios y otras cosas más. Por ahora estará abierta de lunes a viernes de 9:00am a 5:00pm Pase a la oficina parroquial y pregunte a una de nuestras secretarias.

Que tengan una feliz semana. Les tengo en mis oraciones.

P. Alex



Animémonos
UNOS A OTROS
DE Palabra y Obra

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Misas esta semana

Domingo 28 de febrero:

8:00 am	+Kanwar Chaudhri
10:00 am	Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm	+Grace Okemo
1:30 pm	+Jose Samuel de la Zerda Caero & Nora Beatrice Mercado de la Zerda

Lunes 1 de marzo:

6:30 am	(L) Abraham Ahakuelo Family
9:00 am	+Willmer Moseman

Martes 2 de marzo:

6:30 am	+Alma Gabarda
9:00 am	+James Downey

Miércoles 3 de marzo:

6:30 am	+Teresita Andaya
9:00 am	Special Intention

Jueves 4 de marzo:

6:30 am	(L) Macrina Han
9:00 am	+Matthew James Quinn

Viernes 5 de marzo:

6:30 am	(L) Daisy Lung Family
9:00 am	+Ed Constantino

Sabado 6 de marzo:

8:00 am	+Juan Rodas Flores
5:00 pm	+Edgardo Constantino
7:00 pm	+Oswaldo Marim

¿Te has suscrito a la donación electrónica de la Parroquia a través de Faith Direct?

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¡Gracias por su apoyo!

Noche de recuerdo para hombres Todos los hombres son invitados a una noche mensual de oración el 3er jueves del mes a las 7 pm. Confesiones, una charla espiritual, adoración eucarística y tiempo social. Este mes, la Hora Santa será el jueves 18 de marzo a las 7:00 p.m. en la Iglesia de San Luis. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Bert Kalisch (202-528-7589) o Rick Fiesel (703-772-8580).

Grupo de mujeres Tendremos nuestra primera reunión mensual del año el miércoles 10 de marzo a las 10:00 am en Hannan Hall. Nuestra oradora será Susan Gray, Directora de Educación Religiosa. Esperamos con interés oír hablar del programa de la Reina de los Apóstoles. ¡Esperamos verte allí!

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.
- ◇ Mañana de recuerdo - en inglés **el 13 de marzo de 9 am a 12 pm** y en español **el 20 de marzo de 9 am a 12 pm** en la Iglesia.
- ◇ Vocaciones Hora Santa **el 4 de marzo a las 7 pm**

40 latas para el desafío de 40 días Patrocinado por Caballeros de Colón, el Consejo 4522 del Papa Juan Pablo II en cooperación con la Escuela Católica Reina de los Apóstoles. ¡Atención a los estudiantes de la escuela! Cada día escolar lleva UNA lata de comida a la escuela, luego llévala contigo a las oraciones de la mañana en el gimnasio y colócala en tu caja de clases. Usted puede ganar "Dress Down Day" O un almuerzo de pizza! El desafío comienza el Miércoles de Ceniza, **17 de febrero** y termina el Jueves Santo, **1 de abril**.

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