QUEENof APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter - May 9, 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

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

OFFICE & GIFT SHOP 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.

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus.

Today we celebrate the last Sunday before the solemnities of the Ascension and Pentecost, with which we end the Easter season. Throughout these Sundays, the risen Jesus has shown himself to us as the Good Shepherd and the vine to whom we must be united like the branches, and today He opens His heart wide to us. As is logical, in His heart, we only find love. That which constitutes the most profound mystery of God is that He is love. Everything he has done from creation to redemption is out of love. All he expects of us in response to His action is love.

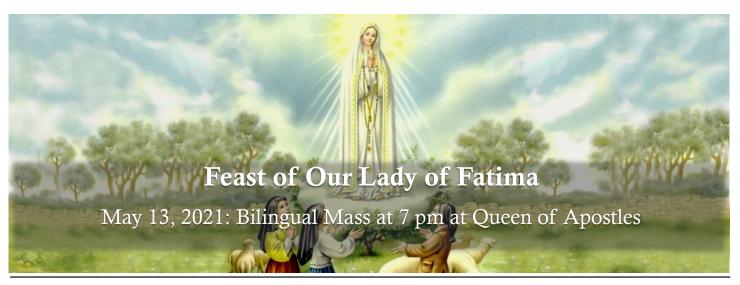
For this reason, His words resound today: "Remain in my love" (Jn 15, 9). Love asks for reciprocity. It is like a dialogue that makes us correspond with a growing love to the loving dialogue of His love. This Sunday, Jesus invites us to reflect on the love that should awaken us with joy and hope; when we understand and apply God's love in our lives, the direct and immediate fruit is joy. Let's love with joy and hope even though we have difficulties and stumbles in our daily lives.

And speaking of love, I congratulate especially all Mothers on their day. I believe that we will never have enough words to thank them because a mother is a living representation of the love of God in each child. A mother always gives us life; understands, educates, corrects, guides, forgives, and all for love. A mother is the greatest gift that God has given us that is why on this day, we recognize that gift in all of them, and we pray that God protects them and keeps them always healthy and those who have already returned to the Father's house, we commend them in our prayers. I congratulate all the mothers of Queen of Apostles and commend them in my prayers. Hopefully, your children celebrate this day with you and love you more every day. Happy Mother's Day!

On May 13, we celebrate the 104th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady the Virgin Mary in Fatima to the Shepherds; As a parish, I invite you to join the parish prayer of the Holy Rosary asking for the end of the Pandemic, we will pray the rosary at 6:00 pm and then we will celebrate a bilingual Mass at 7:00 pm, we are all invited to participate. Remember that the prayer of the rosary has enormous power; with this prayer, we ask the intercession of the Virgin so that this situation that we are experiencing worldwide ends, let's make a chain of prayer, and we make communion with Pope Francis who has invited us to pray for this intention in this month. Let us join Jesus through Mary.

I do not want to end this letter without ceasing to thank you for your love and tireless support for our parish because, despite the Pandemic, you have continued to support all the projects financially. Thanks to many of you, the Capital Campaign continues to receive your contribution; we are already finishing some projects and will start new ones soon. I appeal to those who have not yet collaborated, to help us continue to beautify our sanctuary because there is still much to do.

Happy Mother's Day! I take you in my prayers.





FAITH FORMATION



Religious Education Information

Congratulations to the school's First Communicants! Students from Queen of Apostles School received the Lord in the Eucharist for the first time on May 8. May the love of Jesus, in His body, blood, soul, and divinity, forever remain close to these young people. May these children inspire us to always receive Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament with joyful anticipation and with humble hearts that are open to receive His graces.

The First Holy Communion Masses for Religious Education students is May 22, 2021 at 10am in English and 12:30pm in Spanish. Students are to meet in Hannan Hall 45 minutes before the Mass, dressed and ready. The rehearsal for the Mass in English is scheduled for Mon, May 17 at 6:30pm in the church. The rehearsal for the Mass in Spanish is scheduled for Tues, May 18 at 6:30pm in the church. The student and a parent are to attend the rehearsal. Students are to go to Confession before the date of Holy Communion.

Registration for the 2021-2022 Religious Education school year is open! Current RE families may register on Sunday mornings during RE classes, or, families may stop by the parish office (4329 Sano St) M-F, 9:30am-5pm. The Religious Education Program at Queen of Apostles is available to parish youth in grades kindergarten (age 5) - high school. In-person classes will be held on Sunday mornings, 10:30-11:45am beginning on Sept 12, 2021. Queen of Apostles parishioners and returning students are given priority for Religious Education enrollment. Class size is limited as we balance safety protocols with student learning and faith formation. Nonparishioners will be placed on a wait list until August 1, 2021. The registration form and tuition are to be submitted together. Birth and baptismal certificates for new students are to be provided at the time of registration. Because each year builds on the next year of faith formation, students must attend at least two consecutive years of Religious Education before a Sacrament is administered, have no more than three absences during the school year, and score at least 70% on tests. Generally, baptized children receive First Penance/First Holy Communion in grade 2 and higher and Confirmation is received in grade 8 and higher. A student is to show evidence of desire and preparation for a Sacrament. Families with unbaptized children under the age of 7 years old are to contact the parish office, 703-354-8711

or general@queenofapostles.org. Thank you for considering our program. In concert with parents, Religious Education is an opportunity for your child to live the Catholic faith by learning to pray, knowing the Bible, learning Scripture, and preparing for and living the Sacraments.

Are you Catholic Adult but not Confirmed? Interested in becoming Catholic? Are you in a Sacramental Marriage?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process through which adults join or complete his/her initiation into the Roman Catholic Church. If interested in attending RCIA for the next school year, Sept 2021-June 2022, please contact Susan Gray at 703-354-8711 or s.gray@queenofapostles.org, or talk with a priest.

Sts. Charles Borromeo and Robert Bellarmine, pray for us.

Altar Servers

If your son (grade 4 and above) is willing to serve at Holy Mass on Sundays at 8am, 10am, 12noon in English, Mass in Spanish at 7pm on Saturdays or 1:30pm on Sundays, and other Masses, please send a message to s.gray@queenofapostles.org or talk with Fr. Rampino. Generally, boys serve every other weekend. 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. Thank you for participating in this ministry.

Called to be a Catechist, Aide, or Volunteer?

You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; so that the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. John 15: 16

For the 2020-2021 Religious Education school year, we seek practicing Catholics who love the Catholic faith and want to help develop the faith in our youth. As sowers of the Gospel, catechists (teachers), aides (assist the catechists), substitutes, and volunteers (assist with registration, setup, etc.) are needed on Sunday mornings for in-person classes for the Sept 12, 2021-May 29, 2022 program. Younger, older, single, married, male and female are welcome to apply to serve this ministry. Prayerfully consider if you are called to respond to Jesus, be His witness and example, and serve as a disciple by helping teach and pass along the faith. We provide you with materials, support, and opportunities to attend Diocesan and parish workshops and obtain certification. Attendance at a Virtus seminar and completion of Virginia Background Check paperwork are required. If interested, please contact Susan Gray at 703-354-8711 or s.gray@queenofapostles.org..



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 <u>queenofapostles.org</u>. 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

Sixth Sunday of Easter-Sunday, May 9:

8:00 am Mother's Day Novena

10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners

12:00 pm (L) Danielle Van Dyke 1:30 pm + Margarita Moreno

Monday, May 10:

6:30 am Mother's Day Novena 9:00 am +Katherine Krescanko

Tuesday, May 11:

6:30 am +Arlene O'Connor 9:00 am Mother's Day Novena

Wednesday, May 12:

6:30 am Mother's Day Novena 9:00 am (L) Caroline Wack

Thursday, May 13:

6:30 am Mother's Day Novena 9:00 am +Mary Hetsko

Friday, May 14:

6:30 am Mother's Day Novena

9:00 am (L) Father Leopoldo Vives, DCJM

Saturday, May 15:

8:00 am +Alice McGann 5:00 pm Mother's Day Novena 7:00 pm +Mercedes Paola Merino

Dedication for the Altar Flowers

This week the flowers that decorate our altar are dedicated for *Father Robert Lange.* May he rest in peace!



Weekly Emails

Want to receive Parish updates and announcements directly to your email inbox? Sign up for our weekly emails sent every Friday by contacting the Parish Office or visiting our website <u>queenofapostles.org</u> today!

Women's Group

The Women's Group will meet this Wednesday, May 12th at 10:00 am in Hannan Hall. Plans for a speaker are still being worked on. We hope to see you there.

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of

Columbus will be handing out Baby Bottles for collecting coins for pregnant Mom's. Please return the bottles by Father's Day, June 20th. We will also be handing out balloons on Mother's Day.

Happy Mother's Day!

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

Thank you for your support!



Saint Gabriel Preschool

NOW ENROLLING!

703-354-0395

4319 Sano Street

Alexandria, VA 22312

www.stgdaycare.org



Baptisms

Infant Baptisms are held twice a month on Saturdays at 10:30 am: First Saturday in English, and the Third Saturday in Spanish. The classes are held on the Third Wednesday at 7:30 pm in English and the First Wednesday at 7:30 pm in Spanish. On Wednesday, June 2 we will have the English class in Hannan Hall. The next Baptism will be on Saturday, May 15, please turn in all the necessary documents by Monday. May 10th.

Work on Roof

Please be mindful of moving materials in the parking lot over the next couple of weeks as our Church roof is being replaced. There will also be much more noise and dust during the next couple of weeks, so we thank you for your caution and patience. We are excited to keep you updated on this highly anticipated capital project.

Legion of Mary - Praises of Mary:

When we say that Mary is the Mother of God, we speak of a dignity that is above every other dignity that can be named, or thought of, after that of God.

Nothing equals Mary, for all is either above her, and this is God, or beneath her, and this is all that is not God.

- St. Anselm

Meetings on Thursdays, 6:00 pm, Parish Center

Gospel Commentary for Sixth Sunday of Easter: Friends with God

By Fr. Joseph Rampino

What does it mean to be a friend of God? As moderns, we use the word friend so frequently, and so freely that we might not have a clear answer. Is it enough to show good will towards one another, or to share similar interests? How much time must we spend with someone before we can call them a friend? How much do we have to share the world view and beliefs of a friend? For us, friendship can be such a casual thing that to hear Christ tells us "I have called you friends" might not awake in us any great response.

Yet in the ancient world, friendship held a much higher place. The Jewish people, the Greeks, and the Romans, among others, considered friendship to be the absolute pinnacle of human love. Nothing, neither infatuation nor romance, could surpass the height of friendship. In fact, the short definition of friendship common during the time of Christ was "one soul living in two bodies." This is the friendship that Christ offers, and in doing so, he goes further, telling us that "no one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." He is referring here, of course, to His own death on our behalf, the ultimate sign of His perfect friendship for us. Christ extends to us a perfect friendship of union, paid for by sacrifice, and if we wish to be His friends in return, what awaits us is becoming one with Him in heart through the Church and her Sacraments.

Of course, there is even more to this friendship Christ offers, simply because of the fact that He is not just a good human person, but is the good god Himself. Christ tells us: "as the Father loves me, so I also love you." When Jesus loves, He does not just love with a human heart, but also with a divine heart, "as the Father loves." When we are joined in one living union with Christ, we are joined also to the Father and the Holy Spirit, sharing life with the one God! As the priest prepares the chalice at Mass, he prays the prayer: "through the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled Himself to share in our humanity." Through the Sacraments, we do not just become close to God in our mind or emotions, but by sharing in His very nature.

This is what it means to be a friend of God. We do not simply think nice thoughts about God, nor do we simply share His interest and causes, nor do we simply spend time with Him, nor do we merely look at the world as He does, as excellent as all of those things are. In being made into Jesus' friends, we actually become one with Him, receiving the love that He first received from the Father, and sharing in His own divine nature. For this reason, we should guard our friendship with God with our very lives, and put the deepening of that friendship before every other priority. Then, not only will we enjoy the glory of being one with the Trinity itself in heaven, but even here on earth, if only in a foretaste of the joys to come.



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 registered in the year 2020 at Queen of Apostles who have not yet pledged will be 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 Spraht, 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.

† EN ESPAÑOL †

CARTA DEL PÁRROCO

Queridos hermanos en Cristo Jesús:

Hoy celebramos el último domingo antes de las solemnidades de la Ascensión y Pentecostés, con los cuales se llega al final de tiempo de Pascua. A lo largo de estos domingos Jesús resucitado se nos ha manifestado como el Buen Pastor y la vid a quien hay que estar unido como los sarmientos, y hoy nos abre de par en par Su corazón. Como es lógico, en Su corazón sólo encontramos amor. Aquello que constituye el misterio más profundo de Dios es que es Amor. Todo lo que ha hecho desde la creación hasta la redención es por amor. Todo lo que espera de nosotros como respuesta a su acción es amor.

Por esto, sus palabras resuenan hoy: «Permanezcan en mi amor» (Jn 15,9). El amor pide reciprocidad, es como un diálogo que nos hace corresponder con un amor creciente al dialogo amoroso de Su amor. Este domingo, Jesús nos invita a reflexionar en el amor que nos debe despertar alegría y esperanza, cuando entendemos y aplicamos el amor de Dios en nuestra vida, el fruto directo e inmediato es la alegría. Amemos con alegría y esperanza a pesar que tengamos dificultades y tropiezos en nuestro diario vivir.

Y hablando del amor, felicito de manera especial a todas las Madres en su día, creo que nunca tendremos suficientes palabras para felicitarlas, porque una madre es una representación viva del amor de Dios en cada hijo, una madre siempre, nos da vida, nos entiende, educa, corrige, guía, perdona y todo por amor. Una madre es el don más grande que Dios nos ha dado, por eso en este día reconocemos ese don en todas ellas y oramos para que Dios las proteja y las guarde y las mantenga siempre con salud y a las que ya regresaron a la casa del padre, las encomendamos en nuestras oraciones. Felicito a todas las madres de "Reina de los Apóstoles", las encomiendo en mis oraciones. Ojala, sus hijos celebren con ustedes este día y las amen cada día más. ¡Feliz día de las Madres!

El próximo 13 de mayo celebramos el 104 aniversario de las apariciones de nuestra Señora la Virgen María en Fátima a los Pastores; como parroquia les invito a que nos unamos al rezo parroquial del Santo Rosario pidiendo por el fin de la Pandemia, rezaremos el rosario a las 6:00pm y luego celebraremos una misa bilingüe a las 7:00pm, todos estamos invitados a participar. Recuerden que la oración del Rosario tiene un poder enorme, con esta oración pedimos la intercesión de la virgen para que esta situación que vivimos a nivel mundial se termine, hagamos una cadena de oración y hagamos comunión con el Papa Francisco que nos ha invitado a orar por esta intención en este mes. Unámonos a Jesús por María.

No quiero finalizar esta carta sin dejar de agradecerles por su amor y su incansable apoyo a nuestra parroquia, porque a pesar de la Pandemia han continuado apoyando financieramente todos los proyectos. Gracias a muchos de ustedes la "Campaña Capital" sigue recibiendo su aporte, ya estamos finalizando algunos proyectos y pronto iniciaremos nuevos. Hago un llamado a aquellos que aún no han colaborado a que nos ayuden para seguir embelleciendo nuestro santuario porque aún falta mucho por hacer.

¡Feliz día de las Madres! Les llevo en mis oraciones.



Misas de Esta Semana

Domingo 9 de mayo:

8:00 am Mother's Day Novena

10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners

12:00 pm (L) Danielle Van Dyke 1:30 pm + Margarita Moreno

Lunes 10 de mayo:

6:30 am Mother's Day Novena 9:00 am +Katherine Krescanko

Martes 11 de mayo:

6:30 am +Arlene O'Connor 9:00 am Mother's Day Novena

Miércoles 12 de mayo:

6:30 am Mother's Day Novena 9:00 am (L) Caroline Wack

Jueves 13 de mayo:

6:30 am Mother's Day Novena 9:00 am +Mary Hetsko

Viernes 14 de mayo:

6:30 am Mother's Day Novena

9:00 am (L) Father Leopoldo Vives, DCJM

Sabado 15 de mayo:

8:00 am +Alice McGann 5:00 pm Mother's Day Novena 7:00 pm +Mercedes Paola Merino



Los Caballeros de Colon

Los Caballeros de Colon estaran repartiendo biberones para recolectar monedas para ayudar a mujeres embarazadas. Favor de regresar los biberones no mas tardar el 20 de junio, el Dia del Padre. Estarn repartiendo globos para celebrar el Dia de las madre.



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

a Faith Direct, comience simplemente en-

focando la cámara de su teléfono en este código QR!

También puede visi-

tar <u>faithdirect.net</u> e inscribirse en línea utilizando nuestro código parroquial: **VA234**

¡Gracias por su apoyo!

Dedicación para las Flores del Altar

Las flores que decoran nuestro altar esta semana son dedicadas al *Padre Robert Lange*. Oue descanse en paz!



FAITH DIRECT



Trabajo en el Techo

Tenga en cuenta los materiales móviles en el estacionamiento durante las próximas semanas, ya que nuestro techo de la Iglesia está siendo reemplazado. También habrá mucho más ruido y polvo durante la semana, por lo que le agradecemos por su precaución y paciencia. Estamos encantados de mantenerlo actualizado sobre este proyecto del Capital Campaign.

Bautizos

Los bautismos en español se celebran el *primer sábado del mes* a las 10:30 am. La próxima fecha es el **5 de junio**. Por favor entrege toda la documentación necesaria antes del lunes, 31 de mayo.

Correos Electrónicos Semanales

¿Quiere recibir actualizaciones y anuncios de la Parroquia directamente a su correo electrónico? Regístrese para recibir nuestros correos electrónicos semanales, enviados todos los viernes. Contacte la Oficina Parroquial para mas información.