

# QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

4401 Sano Street, Alexandria, VA 22312 (703) 354-8711 [www.queenofapostles.org](http://www.queenofapostles.org)

**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 16, 2020**



## CLERGY

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

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 8:00 am, 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-Saturday: 8:00 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



## QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*FAITH, EXCELLENCE, JOY*

4409 Sano Street  
Alexandria, VA 22312  
[www.queenofapostlesschool.org](http://www.queenofapostlesschool.org)

School Office Hours (Summer):  
Mon-Fri: 9am–12pm and by appointment

### STAFF

Anne Arias, Principal  
Maria Fox, Secretary  
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*



## Queen of Apostles Vision Statement

To be a family of families committed to growing in discipleship of Christ and eager to invite others to join our family.

## 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. Parish registration forms are available in the Church vestibule and at the Parish Office, located at 4329 Sano Street (next to the church). Please notify the Parish Office of any family status changes or if you have moved outside the parish by calling (703) 354-8711 ext. 10, or e-mailing [general@queenofapostles.org](mailto:general@queenofapostles.org)

## PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

What a joy it has given us to see new faces at Sunday Masses, some are returning gradually to the house of the Lord. Please, feel calm and safe because, as a parish, we try to keep the church as disinfected as possible. Although I always encourage you to follow the safety protocols, wearing a mask, and maintaining social distancing. Thanks to the Lord, we are doing this very well!

I want to congratulate the 18 students from our school that graduated last Friday. At Mass, I asked God to protect them and guide them with wisdom so that this new step that they will take in their lives makes them grow in grace and holiness. Congratulations, and never forget our principals of faith, excellence, and joy.

On August 17th, our schoolteachers will be returning; I give them the warmest welcome, for many of them are new to our school. I have them in my prayers so that they can carry out their vocation as a faithful ministry as they teach our children. This year will be a great challenge for them as it is for everyone because the implementation of the safety protocols against the virus is quite a challenge. Still, with the help of God, we will succeed, I invite them to make a great team of faith and make the education of our children this year is a success.

Also, this coming Sunday, we will start a new Mass in Spanish. I have realized that many Spanish-speaking parishioners in the area are going to other parishes both to Mass and celebrating their sacraments, the church is a spiritual home, and the parish pastor must attend to them. Therefore, I decided to establish a second Mass on Sundays for them. The Saturday Mass will remain at 7:00 PM, and the Sunday Mass will be at 1:30 PM, I invite you to help me pray for this to be a success.

I also want to make you aware that I have started the repair of the church tabernacle door; it seems that for many years it had not been cleaned professionally. The lock was already giving problems; at the same time, the interior where the Blessed Sacrament is kept, was full of dust seeping into the corners of the door. For this reason, these coming weeks, you will see a temporary tabernacle while the other its repair completely; the idea for the future is to place a golden box inside the marble so that the Eucharistic Jesus is in a more beautiful and more dignified tabernacle and with less dust. If anyone wants to collaborate for this purpose, your help is always welcome. Thank you very much in advance.

Finally, I want to share with you that, thanks to your commitment in our Capital Campaign, we will soon begin two significant projects to improve our sanctuary, the first one is the sound system, I hope to sign a contract this week, and that next month they will begin work. Hopefully, soon we will be able to hear the celebration of the Eucharist more clearly. Also, the replacement of the lighting at the altar will soon be a reality. This project will be just one phase of all lighting replacements of the church that the previous pastor had planned. I am pleased because I know that most want better lighting and better sound in the church. Thank God everything will soon take shape.

I hope you have a happy week; I have you all present in my prayers.

In Christ and Mary,

Fr. Alex



## Masses This Week

### Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 16:

8:00 am +Frank Carey  
 10:00 am Living & Deceased Parishioners  
 12:00 pm +Kevin O'Brien  
 1:30 pm +Maria Sanchez

### Monday, August 17:

8:00 am +Marcel Dupuy

### Tuesday, August 18:

8:00 am +Haidi Aquino

### Wednesday, August 19:

8:00 am +John & Mary O'Mara

### St. Bernard - Thursday, August 20:

8:00 am +Jack & Marge Dickson

### Pope St. Pius X - Friday, August 21:

8:00 am +Mercedes Henning

### Queenship of Mary - Saturday, August 22:

8:00 am +Felisberta Belzarena  
 7:00 pm +Margarita Moreno

*\*Please note that since we currently have a modified Mass schedule due to COVID, Mass intentions not listed will be said at private Masses said by our priests. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused. Please call the parish office at (703) 354-8711 ext. 10 with any questions\**

## What is the Queenship of Mary?

### Feast Day: August 22

Pope Pius XII established this feast in 1954, but Mary's queenship has roots in Scripture. At the Annunciation, Gabriel announced that Mary's Son would receive the throne of David and rule forever. At the Visitation, Elizabeth calls Mary "mother of my Lord." As in all the mysteries of Mary's life, she is closely associated with Jesus: Her queenship is a share in Jesus' kingship. We can also recall that in the Old Testament the mother of the king has great influence in court.



Later Church fathers and doctors continued to use the title. Hymns of the 11th to 13th centuries address Mary as queen: "Hail, Holy Queen," "Hail, Queen of Heaven," "Queen of Heaven." The Dominican rosary as well as numerous invocations in Mary's litany celebrate her queenship.

The feast is a logical follow-up to the Assumption, and is now celebrated on the octave day of that feast. In his 1954 encyclical To the Queen of Heaven, Pius XII points out that Mary deserves the title because she is Mother of God, because she is closely associated as the New Eve with Jesus' redemptive work, because of her preeminent perfection, and because of her intercessory power.

*Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our Life, our Sweetness, and our Hope!*

[franciscanmedia.org/queenship-of-mary/](http://franciscanmedia.org/queenship-of-mary/)

## Celebrating A Silver or Golden Wedding

### Anniversary This Year?

Were you married in 1970 or 1995? Then join Bishop Michael F. Burbidge for the 2020 Mass for Jubilarians to be celebrated on **Sunday, October 4th at 2:30 p.m.** at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington, VA. Space is limited. Contact the parish office (703-354-8711 ext. 10) to register no later than **September 18th.**



## Bishop Burbidge to Bless

### New Mobile Sonogram

THE BISHOP IS COMING! Bishop Michael Burbidge will join us on **Saturday, August 22, 2020 at 11:30 am** to bless the new mobile sonogram machine.



The blessing will occur in the Dunya Banquet Hall parking lot at 5951 Stevenson Ave, Alexandria, VA.

Join us for the Rosary beforehand at **11:00 am.** Sign up at [PRAYforLIFE.org](http://PRAYforLIFE.org). We need help holding signs! Coffee and donuts will be provided.

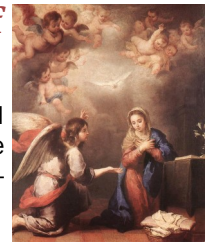
*"Never tire of firmly speaking out in defense of life from its conception. Christ is with you: be not afraid!" - St. John Paul II*

*"There is no greater misery than false joys."*

*-St. Bernard of Clairvaux*

## Get involved with Queen of Apostles Young Adults!

Our mission is to inspire single and married young adults, ages 18-39, to answer the universal call to sainthood through fellowship and formation.



We are starting our first Zoom Bible Study! The topic is *The Bible and the Virgin Mary* with Dr. Scott Hahn. We will hold the Bible Study every Tuesday at 6pm. For more information or to get added to our list, contact John Cosgayon at 571-265-9208 or [jncos95@outlook.com](mailto:jncos95@outlook.com)

*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](http://faithdirect.net) and enroll online using our Parish code: **VA234** Thank you for your support!



FAITH DIRECT®  
 inspiring secure giving®

# † RELIGIOUS EDUCATION †

## Called to be a Catechist, Aide, Volunteer?

Thank you to those who responded to our call for catechists/aides. We have **2 more openings** and invite you to consider teaching the Catholic faith to our Queen of Apostles parish youth. The Religious Education school year begins on **Sept 13**. Don't be afraid that you don't know every detail of the faith—part of being a catechist involves an openness to learning as you teach. As a catechist, you make a Sunday morning commitment to guide a class. Our Religious Education Program uses the **Faith and Life series** which provides calendars, lesson plans, and activities. We provide you with materials, support, and faith/professional development opportunities. Attendance at a **Virtus seminar** and completion of **Virginia Background Check** paperwork are required. If interested, please contact Susan Gray at 703-354-8711 ext. 16 or email [s.gray@queenofapostles.org](mailto:s.gray@queenofapostles.org)



## RCIA

*Were you baptized Catholic but missing Confirmation, Eucharist? Are you interested in Learning about the Catholic Faith? Are you in a Sacramental Marriage?*

If you answered “Yes” to any of these questions, you should register for RCIA! The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process through which adults join or complete their initiation into the Catholic Church. RCIA is for three groups of adults:

- \* Those who are not baptized.
- \* Those who were baptized into another Christian denomination and wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.
- \* Baptized Catholics who were not fully formed in the Catholic faith and have not completed their initiation: those who have not received the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist.

If you are missing Sacraments, not in a Church marriage, or thinking about becoming Catholic, please join our weekly English or Spanish adult faith formation classes. **RCIA in English** will be held on **Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm** beginning **Sept 22**.

Please stop by the parish office (4329 Sano Street) to register for the next school year (**Sept 2020-June 2021**) or email [s.gray@queenofapostles.org](mailto:s.gray@queenofapostles.org). Please provide your birth certificate, and, if applicable, your baptismal certificate dated in the last 6 months.

For couples married outside of the Church, our priests are willing to help you prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony, an important step to receiving the other Sacraments and living the Catholic faith as a family. Please contact the parish office and set an appointment to meet with a priest.

## Religious Education Registration

**Dates:** Registration for the **Sept 13, 2020-May 30, 2021** Religious Education school year at Queen of Apostles is open to students in **kindergarten (age 5) - high school**. Thank you to the families who have registered already. Our volunteer catechists and aides are preparing to help teach the Catholic faith to your child. Religious Education classes, taught in English, are on Sundays, **9-10:15am** in the school. On **Sept 13**, doors open at **8am**. **Advance registration is required**. We are planning for in-person Religious Education classes with an on-line option available. Please note that there are only a few spaces left for our 8th grade class.

**Safety:** To comply with safety protocols, class size is limited, masks/face shields are to be worn, hand sanitizer will be used upon entering the school building, students will report directly to class, only catechists, aides, and registration volunteers may enter the school, and disinfection will occur before and after classes. The on-line/at-home learning option (through **MyCatholicFaithDelivered.com** + a monthly Sunday morning class via video with the catechist and in-person class) is available to students who are not in a sacramental year and who have a computer and internet access. Please understand that our planning may change as conditions change. We are working with the Diocesan Office of Faith Formation on balancing safety protocols with student learning and faith formation.

**Registration fees:** After Aug 1: **\$75** for 1 child, **\$125** for 2 children, **\$155** for 3 children in the same family + **\$20 late fee**. New students are to provide birth and baptismal (dated in the last 6 months) certificates with the registration form and tuition. Visit [queenofapostles.org](http://queenofapostles.org) (Youth and Family > Religious Education) or go to <https://rb.gy/baixkk> to register. Please complete a registration form for each child and read the updated policies. If you have difficulties paying tuition, please talk with Susan Gray ([s.gray@queenofapostles.org](mailto:s.gray@queenofapostles.org) or 703-354-8711 ext. 16) because a financial hardship should not impede your child's faith formation.

**Requirements:** Each RE school year builds on the next year of faith formation, therefore, students **must attend at least 2 consecutive years of Religious Education** before a Sacrament is administered. A student is to show evidence of desire and preparation for a Sacrament and **not have more than 3 absences** during the school year. Generally, baptized children receive First Penance/First Holy Communion in grade 2 and higher and Confirmation is received in grade 8 and higher. Families with unbaptized children under 7 years old are asked to call the parish office at 703-354-8711 ext. 10. Together with our catechists and aides, we welcome this opportunity to assist your children in living the Catholic life: learn to pray, know the Bible and learn Scripture, and prepare for and live the sacraments. **Homeschool families** with children preparing for Sacraments this upcoming school year should call 703-354-8711 ext. 16 or email [s.gray@queenofapostles.org](mailto:s.gray@queenofapostles.org)

# GOSPEL REFLECTION

## 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time: The Man Behind the Message

*Fr. Joseph Rampino*

Few of Jesus' interactions with people in the Gospels are more jarring than the one presented to us in this week's Gospel. We are used to Christ as the understanding, the merciful, the one who supports and encourages the poor, so when He initially refuses the request of this woman in trouble, even as she cries out "Lord, help me," we can easily be troubled.

Why does Jesus seem to push this woman away? Not only does He refuse her request initially, but He even does so on account of the fact that she is not a Jew. Some modern commentators will opine that in this moment, this woman's boldness opens the Lord's mind to the possibility of extending salvation to all the peoples of the world, waking Him up to the reality of the diversity of peoples. This opinion does not hold, given the fact of Christ's divinity, the unchanging nature of God's will and act of salvation, not to mention the interpretive witness of the earliest Christians regarding this passage. Something much more interesting than a supposed moment of "speaking truth to power" is happening here.

In fact, this moment is only one of many moments in which Jesus acts strangely for a teacher and religious leader. At many points in the Gospels, He deliberately obscures His message behind parables, asks provocative questions that He does not answer, and allows confused or scandalized listeners to leave when they do not understand Him. If Christ were just a teacher, conveying abstract moral information to His followers so that they could live good lives, or a salvation dispenser, providing healings and miracles like a traveling doctor with superpowers, His poor PR would indeed be a fault, since for most teachers, it is the message that is important, more than their own personal identity.

In the case of Jesus, though, He Himself is the message. He is what God the Father wishes us to meet and experience. What's more, the goal is not just to go back to our ordinary lives, slightly improved by the interaction, but to remain close to Christ, and follow Him to our new home and new lives in heaven. Every teaching, every moral command, every healing of body or soul, is for the sake of making this life together with God possible for us.

Christianity is not a moral or therapeutic religion with rituals tacked on for fun. It is aimed at communion with God which itself instructs, forms, and heals as it deepens. Christ does not enter a difficult and uncomfortable conversation with this woman in the Gospels because He is ineffective, myopic, obtuse, or narrow-minded. He does so to draw out of her a deeper act of belief in Him, so that she will actually meet God in the healing of her daughter, and not simply receive a good thing from God, as though He were providing a service.

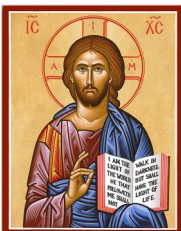
This, then, is the question for us. How do we treat Christ and our Christianity? What role does Jesus play in our lives? Is He simply the one who gives the general moral teachings that help make us nice people? Is He there simply to heal and provide for us when we are in need? Is our Christianity something that exists in the service of our daily lives and earthly happiness? Or do we meet Christ for His own sake, recognizing that He Himself is the goal and fulfillment of our being? If we look to Jesus first, to His face, before the message or the powers or the healings, we will in fact find everything we need, and all the rest will come to us as the fruit of that most important encounter.

*"She said, 'Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters.' Then Jesus said to her in reply, 'O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.'"*

*-Matthew 15:26-27*

**Please pray for the members of our parish who are ill**

Jin C. Navarro, Leo Monterroso, Etelvina León-Duarte, Ginny Cook, Olivia Castillo Asnis, Maria Reyes, Anna Anderson, Michelle Jacobeen, Jean McDermott, Anne Kemble, Tesfa Haile, 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, Kathleen Donohoe, 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, Dorothy Norpel, Kathy Ippolito, Richard Esterlund, Margaret Fiore, Michael Robertson, Mr. Cervantes, Joseph Manson, Jocelyn Reyes, Wilma Robles, Maryann McNutt



### Vocations

"Woman, you have great faith."

It takes faith to hear God's call in our lives. And His call takes us on unexpected paths of deeper trust and love. Is God calling you to life as sister, brother, deacon or priest? If so, call Fr. Michael Isenberg at (703) 841-2514

### Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone.