

QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 30, 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

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



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 (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

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I hope that everyone is doing well as we gradually overcome the fear of this situation that worries us more every day, mainly because of the uncertainty of when it will end, we must have much faith in God, pray tirelessly and see everything that is happening from the faith point of view and not from the human point of view. This coming Sunday, the Gospel calls us precisely to do that, not to let ourselves be defeated by our humanity. This Sunday, we see Peter trying to rebuke Jesus into not accepting the sacrifice of the cross, something for which Jesus admonishes him. Peter had a hard time understanding that suffering and trials are essential to the life of an apostle of Jesus. On more than one occasion, many of us act like Peter and put God's will before ours, and the most challenging thing, we reject the sacrifice and the Lord's cross. Let us ask the Lord for the grace to understand His will in our lives and not be afraid of the cross and suffering.

I want to touch on some points this week that I consider essential in our parish and that as a family of faith, we must share with all of you.

Many ask me if we are no longer going to return to the regular times of the Masses we had before the pandemic, the answer is that we will return, only that the diocese has not approved us to return to the regular times. We have to wait for the state to mandate when we will enter phase four, and based on that, we will return to a regular schedule. I ask for your prayers and patience with all this.

Also, I inform you that beginning on September 1st, we will have a new member of our staff, her name is Karla Aleman, and her position will be that of a Pastoral Associate. Her primary role will be to support all the pastoral areas of the parish; I want to promote and give more attention to all the groups and ministries of our parish. She has a lot of experience and knowledge in pastoral and formation for ministries; she will be excellent support for our parish, at the same time that she will help as Facilities Manager, and will support Flora in other activities concerning the movement and development of our parish. I welcome Karla, and I am more than sure that she will do great good for our parish's pastoral development.

I want to remind those who have children in the catechetical formation stage that we are almost on the verge of starting Religious Education classes, because of the pandemic I know that many are afraid to send their children to receive the lessons. However, I want to assure you that we will disinfect and take all possible measures to avoid contagion. Classes begin on September 13th at the usual times. For more information, please contact our DRE Susan Gray, and she will assist you with any information you need.

Finally, I invite you to welcome all the students of our school who began their classes on Wednesday, August 26th. This year we will not have an in-person Mass with the children to start their school year due to the pandemic, but I offered a Mass on Wednesday for the teachers, the parents, and for all the students. Let's pray that everything goes well for us. In the same way, I thank our principal for all the hard work she has done preparing, even the smallest details for the children and teachers to return to a safe place. Usually, we don't stop to think about all the stress and hard work involved in getting ready for the start of a new school year, and even more so now amid this challenging situation. Thank you very much, Anne, for all your effort, dedication, love for your vocation as a teacher, and the love for our children.

I invite you to continue praying and always remain in grace since grace encourages us always to continue connecting with God. May the Virgin Mary, Queen of the Apostles, intercede for all and help us with her maternal grace.

God bless you all.

Fr. Alex



Masses This Week

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 30:

8:00 am +Maria Sanchez
 10:00 am Living & Deceased Parishioners
 12:00 pm +Krist Tony Milin
 1:30 pm +Enrique Espino

Monday, August 31:

8:00 am +Dolores Pitcairn

Tuesday, September 1:

8:00 am (L) Peter Nguyen-Van

Wednesday, September 2:

8:00 am +Maria Villaseca

St. Gregory the Great - September 3:

8:00 am +Josephina D. Yu Asensi

Friday, September 4:

8:00 am +Brian

St. Teresa of Calcutta - Saturday, September 5

8:00 am +Jose Roberto Martinez
 7:00 pm +Mr. & Mrs. Hipolito Udasco

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

MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

Feast Day Sept. 5

St. Teresa of Calcutta was born in 1910 in Skopje and lived in India most of her life. She was a Sister of Loreto until she got permission to found the Missionaries of charity in 1950. She worked closely with the poor, lepers, and the orphaned. Jesus revealed His burning thirst for souls to her through interior visions. She experienced the "dark night of the soul," or an intense state of feeling far from God, for many years until she died in 1997.

"Intense love does not measure, it just gives."



Men's Silent Retreat

Register for the annual **Men's Silent Retreat weekend** with Fr. Anthony Giampietro, C.S.B. It includes daily Mass, conferences, time for private prayer, confession and spiritual direction.

MEN'S SILENT RETREAT

THE WAY FORWARD: PERFECTION, COURAGE, & HOPE

OCTOBER 16 AT 6:30PM - OCTOBER 18 AT 12PM

Register at Arlingtondiocese.org/retreatformen

San Damiano Spiritual Center, White Post, VA
 \$325 before Sept. 10; \$360 afterwards

Respect Life Conference The Diocese of Arlington Respect Life conference will be **September 12, 2020** from **8am-12:30pm** at **Holy Spirit Parish** in Annandale. Come for an assessment of current and potential threats to human life and dignity, as well as suggestions for effective practical grassroots response. Bishop Burbidge will offer opening comments before the program. Speakers include Victoria Cobb, President of the Family Foundation, Olivia Gans Turner, President of the Virginia Society for Human Life, and Jeff Caruso, Executive Director of VA Catholic Conference. Visit arlingtondiocese.org/rlc_to_register. The registration cost is \$10.



Parish Office Closed The parish office will be closed **Sept. 4**, and on **Sept. 7**, for Labor Day. St. Joseph the Worker, pray for us!



Have a safe and fun holiday!

Thank you Catechists!

We are blessed to have dedicated catechists, aides, and volunteers who assist parents in the important task of bringing children closer to Christ and His Church: **Magdalena, Lorynie, Lourdes, Natalie, Kene, Chris, Benedict, Gladys, Sister Enyda, Vincent, Blanca, Maria, Jessica**. I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you is the theme for Catechetical Sunday, now scheduled for **Sept. 20, 2020**. Catechists will be recognized for their vocation to the ministry of catechesis.

A **Second Collection** for our RE/RCIA Programs will be held **Sept. 12-13**. Your generosity helps fund materials and activities for Religious Education and RCIA students.

Wednesday Adoration Every Wednesday, from **8:45am-8pm**, we will have Eucharistic Adoration in the main sanctuary. Please make an effort to spend time with our Lord in prayer-He is waiting for you! Confessions are available outside immediately following Exposition. Call the parish office at (703)-354-8711 ext. 10 if there is no one else in the church and you need to leave.

"When you look at the crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus loves you now." -Mother Teresa

*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!***



FAITH DIRECT
 inspiring secure giving

✝ RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ✝

Upcoming Sacraments

Families who delayed their student from receiving sacraments in June are invited to attend a **12 Noon Mass** on **Sept 12 (English)** or **Sept 19 (Spanish)** at Queen of Apostles Church. Please arrive by **11:30am**, dressed and ready to celebrate Mass and the sacraments. If attending one of the Masses, please email s.gray@queenofapostles.org or call 703-354-8711 ext. 16 by **Sept 8**.

Confirmations

Bishop Burbidge will offer Confirmation according to the Extraordinary Form on **Wednesday, Oct 7, 2020** (rescheduled from Monday, Oct 5) at **7pm** at the **Cathedral of St. Thomas More**, Arlington, VA. Please contact Susan at 703-354-8711 ext. 16 or s.gray@queenofapostles.org for more information. All paperwork is **due Sept 1**, including a baptismal certificate, with notations, dated in the last 6 months, and Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility.



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 3 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**. **RCIA in Spanish** will be held on **Wednesday, 7-8:30pm** beginning **Sept 23**. Both classes will be held in the parish office (4329 Sano Street).

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. 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 Holy Matrimony. Please contact the 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. 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 our **3rd and 8th grade classes are full.**

Safety: Families choosing in-person learning have been sent an **Awareness of Risk/Liability Waiver** to read, sign, and return to the parish office by **Sept 8**. Each Sunday before RE class, participants are to perform a health screening for symptoms of COVID-19. Family members displaying any symptoms are not to attend RE class. To comply with safety protocols, class size is limited, 6' distance between families/students, 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: **\$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 (Faith Formation > 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 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.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time: Supernatural Outlook

Fr. Joseph Rampino

"Get behind me Satan, you are not thinking as God does." This rebuke surely shook St. Peter, and probably shakes us to hear as well in the Gospel today. Peter's reaction to Christ's upcoming Passion, Death, and Resurrection, "God forbid Lord," is clearly far removed from Christ's vision, enough that for that moment, Peter has become Christ's opposite.

How does Peter see Christ's coming Passion? On the one hand, his reaction is a naturally good one: he does not want his friend to die. On the other, perhaps there is also the hidden desire he has for a certain kind of triumph for Jesus, and then for His friends. It is certainly possible that he is hoping for the Lord to conquer in an Earthly manner, so that he, Peter, can receive all the rewards for discipleship that the Lord has offered him. One way or another, whether he is thinking nobly or selfishly, Peter is thinking in an earthbound, temporal, and human fashion.

All of the things for which Peter hopes are the sort of things that happen in time, and which can be accomplished, it would seem, by natural human effort. In Peter's vision, one of earthly success, of survival, prosperity, honor, and power, the grace of God would serve only in a helping role, simply bringing about these human things more quickly and easily. God's action, according to this vision, would not change the desired good result, but only help it along. In the end, success would still consist of human beings possessing human things. Nothing in Peter's plan for the future points to or ends in God Himself.

Christ though, has come from the Father and is returning to the Father. His desire is to draw all people to Himself, heal them from sin, and bring them into the Father's house, to live God's life with Him, to share the glory He had before the beginning of the world, and know a peace that passes all understanding. Christ's mission and desire does not require any earthly success, in a certain success, and the grace of God is not just a help, but actually the goal itself. The only thing that matters in this supernatural outlook is whether or not souls come close to Christ for healing, salvation, and glorification. Everything has value only insofar as it assists this goal, and not even our life in this world is worth as much as this eternal end.

The question for us, of course, is which vision we possess. Do we value supernatural things and eternal victory over human success or not? Do we see the Lord's life, grace, as simply something that can help us to achieve our goals here on earth, or do we see it as the actual goal of our life? Do we, with Peter, struggle between expectations, plans, and disappointments, or do we hand our minds and hearts over to Christ, willing to endure all things in order to receive what He desires to give us? Do we hold on to our life in this world, and so risk losing heaven, or do we hold on to eternal hope, even at the cost of our life? Only one success is lasting. Only one thing is necessary. The Lord will give us the strength to choose well, if we only ask Him.

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



St. Francis of Assisi once said, "Remember, you are what you are in the eyes of God, and nothing else." We often forget this stewardship wisdom when we spend all of our time, talent and treasure to gain more of the world's riches. We need to set our priorities based on God's values and not the values of the material world.

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, 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, Jocelyn Reyes, Wilma Robles, Maryann McNutt

Women's Group

The first gathering for the Women's Group will be on Wednesday, **September 9th**. We will meet for the **8am Mass** followed by adoration and a rosary. Father Diaz will meet us in Hannan Hall at 9:30am. All are invited. We hope to see you there!

