



# QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

## CLERGY

Fr. Leopoldo M. Vives, DCJM, Pastor  
Fr. Juan Espino, DCJM, Parochial Vicar  
Fr. Javier O'Connor, DCJM, Parochial Vicar  
Fr. Ignacio de Ribera, DCJM, In Residence  
Deacon Richard C. Caporiccio

## SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Masses on Saturday: 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm (in Spanish)  
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am,  
12 Noon, 2:00 pm (Ghana Community)

## WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday: 6:30 am and 9:00 am  
*No 6:30 am Mass on Federal Holidays*  
Saturday: 8:00 am

## HOLY HOUR SCHEDULE

Thursday: 7:30-8:30 pm

## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday: 7:00-7:30 am  
Wednesday: 6:30 pm until last penitent  
Thursday: 7:30-8:30 pm during Holy Hour  
Saturday: 4:00-5:00 pm and 6:00-7:00 pm  
Sunday: 8:30-9:00 am and 10:00-10:30 am

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 7 am through Saturday 7:45 am

## QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

4409 Sano Street,  
Alexandria, VA 22312  
Mrs. Jodi Reagan, Principal  
Mrs. Maria Fox, Secretary  
(703) 354-0714  
[www.queenofapostlesschool.org](http://www.queenofapostlesschool.org)



## 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. Registration will also be needed to receive a certificate of eligibility to be a Godparent for Baptism; to be a Sponsor for Confirmation; to enroll your child in Religious Education; to begin Baptismal preparation for your child (unless permission is received from your parish); and to prepare for Marriage. Parish registration forms are available in the Church vestibule and at the Parish Office, located at 4329 Sano St. (next door to the Church). Please notify the Parish Office of any family status changes or if you have moved outside of the parish by calling (703) 354-8711, or e-mail [general@queenofapostles.org](mailto:general@queenofapostles.org).

*Mary, Queen of Apostles, pray for us.*

**Early Bulletin Deadlines** The deadline for submitting announcements for the **Dec. 31** and **Jan. 7** bulletins was Monday, **Dec. 11**.

**Thank You** for your generous contribution to the Poor Box. This weekend's collection will go toward the **Poor Sisters of St. Joseph**. Next weekend's collection will go toward the **Parish Charity**.

**Altar Servers** Thank you for your service to God, the altar, and the parish community. Thank you for your generous response to serve at the Advent, Nativity, and Mary, Holy Mother of God Masses. St. Tarcisus and St. John Berchmans, pray for us.

Altar servers/families are invited to host the Vocations Crucifix for one week. If you have not already chosen a week to host the Crucifix, sign-up at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0544aca928a0fe3-queen>. The Vocations Crucifix is a daily reminder to talk about religious vocations and the importance of these vocations to serve the Lord and others.

**High School Application Deadline** The application deadline for Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Arlington is **Jan. 12, 2018**. Register by **Jan. 4** to take the High School Placement Test. Please visit the website for the high school you wish to attend to learn more about their application process and to register for the placement test.

**Science Fair Judges Needed** The Queen of Apostles School Science Fair will be held on Thursday, **Feb. 8, 2018** from 7:00-8:30 pm in Hannan Hall. A light dinner and orientation for the judges will start at 6:15 pm. A background in science, math, or engineering is not required, but is helpful. For more information, or if you are interested in being a judge, please contact Mrs. Tracey Rafferty at [t.rafferty@queenofapostlesschool.org](mailto:t.rafferty@queenofapostlesschool.org).

**Youth Music Festival** Bishop O'Connell High School invites all 6th through 8th grade students to be a part of their 4th annual Youth Music Festival on Saturday, **Dec. 30** from 9 am to 3 pm. The day includes music clinics, performance and much more. This event is free, but a reservation is necessary. For more information and to register, visit [www.bishopoconnell.org/festival](http://www.bishopoconnell.org/festival).

**RCIA English and Spanish** RCIA will not meet on **Dec. 25** and **Dec. 27, 2017**, and **Jan. 1** and **Jan. 3, 2018**.

**Religious Education** Religious Education classes will not meet on **Dec. 24** and **Dec. 31**. Classes resume **Jan. 7, 2018**. We thank our catechists, aides, and volunteers for their dedication to the faith formation of our youth.

As a reminder, the Religious Education Program follows Fairfax County Public Schools regarding closings because of winter weather. If FCPS delays or cancels events on a Sunday, RE class for that Sunday is canceled.

The deadline for a Certificate of Eligibility for Confirmation sponsors is **Jan. 21, 2018**. Sponsors should plan ahead and call for an appointment to meet with his/her parish priest in order to obtain a signed and sealed Certificate of Eligibility. Completed Certificates may be brought to the parish office.

2nd grade Queen of Apostles School parents are invited to a **Jan. 8, 2018** meeting with Fr. Juan to discuss First Confession and First Holy Communion. The meeting will be held in the School at 7 pm. School parents should contact Mr. Vuong or Mrs. Yassa with questions.

Fr. Juan will meet with parents and godparents of unbaptized students (over the age of 7 and has attended 2+ years of Religious Education) on Sunday, **Jan. 21, 2018** at 9 am in the School. This is a mandatory meeting that will review the Three Sacraments of Initiation.

Thank you to the generous parishioners who contributed during Giving Tuesday. Donations will benefit the youth and adult faith formation programs at Queen of Apostles.

**Emmaus and Advent** Emmaus, for high school and young college students, meets on Saturdays 8:30-10 pm at Christendom College/Notre Dame Graduate School (4407 Sano Street) for fellowship, activities, faith discussion, and prayer. Emmaus will not meet **Dec. 30**.

**Nazareth meets Jan. 12 and 26, 2018** Nazareth, for students in grades 5-8, will meet on **Jan. 12** and **26** (not Jan. 5 and 19). Sign-in begins at 3:45 pm in Hannan Hall with activities beginning at 4 pm. Parent sign-out/pick-up is at 5:30 pm.

Thank you for supporting the **Dec. 16** movie night by bringing new baby items for the Pregnancy and Adoption Services Program of Catholic Charities.



DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Office of the Bishop

200 North Glebe Road, Suite 914 • Arlington, Virginia 22203 • (703) 841-2511 • Fax (703) 524-5028

Christmas, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Savior, we are profoundly aware of the need to pray that His peace will reign in our world, in our nation, in our homes and in our lives. We are witnessing much turbulence, unrest and division in our midst. Yet, we do not despair. Our newborn King has shown us the way to peace and unity.

We pray that the leaders of our nation and those throughout the world will allow the Lord to guide their decisions, being ever mindful of the sacredness of all human life and the dignity of each and every human person. We pray that all people will recognize that they are united as God's holy family and respond by treating one another with charity and respect. In our own lives, we pray for the grace to love, honor and forgive each other. In a special way, may our prayer always lead us to seek peace not in the empty promises of the world but in the One who alone can sustain and protect us.

It is my hope and prayer that what we do at Christmas will continue throughout the New Year: to keep our relationship with the Lord our highest priority; to share our gifts and resources with all those in need; and to be instruments of His peace in our communities, workplaces and homes.

Please be assured of a special remembrance at the Masses I will celebrate on Christmas. Through the intercession of Mary our Mother and Saint Joseph, may Our Lord Jesus fill you with his choicest blessings at Christmas and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Bishop Michael Burbidge*

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
Bishop of Arlington



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Navidad de 2017

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

Al celebrar el nacimiento de Nuestro Señor y Salvador, somos profundamente conscientes de la necesidad de rezar para que la paz de Cristo reine en nuestro mundo, en nuestra nación, en nuestro hogar y en nuestra vida. Presenciamos mucha turbulencia, agitación y división en nuestro medio. A pesar de eso, no nos desesperamos. Nuestro Rey recién nacido nos ha mostrado el camino de la paz y la unidad.

Recemos para que los líderes de nuestra nación y de todo el mundo permitan que el Señor guíe sus decisiones y tengan siempre presente la naturaleza sagrada de toda vida humana y la dignidad de cada ser humano. Recemos para que todos los pueblos reconozcan que están unidos como la santa familia de Dios y respondan al tratarse mutuamente con caridad y respeto. Recemos para que, en nuestra propia vida, tengamos la gracia de amarnos, honrarnos y perdonarnos los unos a los otros. De una forma especial, que nuestra oración nos lleve siempre a buscar la paz no en las promesas vacías del mundo sino en el Único que nos puede sostener y proteger.

Abrigo la esperanza de que lo que hagamos en la Navidad continúe durante el Año Nuevo y ruego que así sea: que nuestra máxima prioridad sea mantener nuestra relación con el Señor, que compartamos nuestros dones y recursos con todos los necesitados y que seamos instrumentos de su paz en nuestras comunidades y en nuestros hogares y sitios de trabajo.

Tengan la seguridad de que los recordaré de manera especial en las Misas que celebraré en la Navidad. Por intercesión de María, Nuestra Madre, y de San José, que Nuestro Señor Jesús los colme de sus más selectas bendiciones en la Navidad y siempre.

Atentamente en Cristo,

Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge  
Obispo de Arlington

## Pastor's Letter

### Oh Holy Night

*... the stars are brightly shining  
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth*

Tonight our voices join the Choirs of Angels, the Shepherds, and the Wise Men to sing to Jesus who is born.

During Advent, as we followed the star, we made a journey through the Sacraments: word (silence), water, oil and light. The sacramental signs trained our eyes to see God in all the things that are beautiful and good. They gave us a visible taste of the invisible goodness and beauty of God.

But tonight there is something totally new as "In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he spoke to us through a son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe" (Heb 1:1-2).

Tonight no more signs are needed. No other words are needed because we have the One who is the Word of God. No water, because we have the Fountain. No more oil, because we have the One who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.

*Fall on your knees  
O hear the angels' voices  
O night divine  
O night when Christ was born*

Jesus' birth marks a new beginning for human history. Time is reset to year 1 A.C. Creation is reset to become a new creation. And we are given the gift to hear, to see with our eyes, to look upon, and touch with our hands... "for the life was made visible; we have seen it and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was made visible to us" (1 Jn 1:2).

With Christmas a new journey starts for us, as we walk with Christ and follow him in his footsteps. A journey in which God makes himself visible in his Only Begotten Son, in his flesh and blood. It is the journey in which creation is transformed. The water is Baptism, the oil is Confirmation, the word is Jesus and the bread and wine are his Body and Blood.

This is what occurs in this holy night.

*O night divine  
O night when Christ was born*

Merry and Holy Christmas!

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## Towards a Missionary Family: Reconciliation

### *Living Out Confession*

- † **Daily Examination of Conscience:** Review your day with Jesus at bedtime and make a firm resolution for the next day.
- † **Make a thorough Examination of Conscience**—using a confession guide if possible—and go to Confession to prepare for Christmas.
- † **Start the habit of frequent Confession** (once every 1 to 3 months) if it is not there already.
- † **Think about a person** you would like to reconcile with before Christmas and bring it to prayer.

### *Blessing of the Month*

#### *Encountering Mercy*

God of love, give me the grace to reflect on my life with honesty and humility, to turn my heart to you, and to encounter your abundant mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Then, strengthened by your grace, help me to bring your mercy to others in acts of forgiveness, kindness and care, so they may experience your love through me. Amen.

## This Week In Our Parish

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 24:**

Hannan Hall 2:30-5:30 pm Ghana Group  
Music Room 4:45-6:00 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal  
Adoration Chapel 6:00-8:00 pm Prayer Group

### **Monday, December 25:**

Parish Office and Adoration Chapel Closed

### **Tuesday, December 26:**

Parish Office and Adoration Chapel Closed

Hannan Hall 7:00-9:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

### **Wednesday, December 27:**

Parish Office and Adoration Chapel Closed

Hannan Hall 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Prayer Group

### **Thursday, December 28:**

Parish Office and Adoration Chapel Closed

Parish Office 6:30-8:00 pm Legion of Mary  
Hannan Hall 6:30-9:00 pm Caminantes de Emaus  
Church 7:30-8:30 pm Holy Hour (No Confessions)

### **Friday, December 29:**

Parish Office and Adoration Chapel Closed

### **Saturday, December 30:**

Hannan Hall 1:00-5:00 pm Couples for Christ  
School 4:00-6:30 pm Spanish Prayer Group  
School 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Choir

### *Christmas Anticipation Prayer*

*Hail and blessed be the hour and moment In which  
the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary,  
at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold.*

*In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God,  
to hear my prayer and grant my desires,*

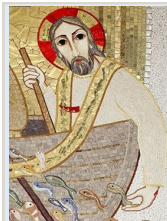
*[here mention your request]*

*through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and of His blessed Mother.*

*Amen.*

**Give a Gift for Life** Please give a Gift for Life this season to help Project Rachel provide healing retreats to those who suffer the effects of abortion. One retreatant wrote: "It has helped me to understand myself in a way I have never understood myself. I was able to accept the Lord's forgiveness, as well as forgive myself." For more information and/or to donate: [www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife).

**Knights of Columbus Christmas Message** Parishioners, on behalf of the over 225 Knights of the Knights of Columbus, Pope John Paul II Council 4522, we wish each and everyone of you a joyous Christmas! We give thanks for all the blessings our Lord God has provided us over this last year. We look forward to serving the parish, the community, and joining with our Brothers around the world, society as a whole, in the upcoming new year. We thank Fr. Vives, Madre Gonzales, and all the parishioners for your support this year. May God continue to bless us all! May you have a very Merry Christmas and safe, healthy, and prosperous New Year!



## Vocations

**"Be it done unto me according to your word."** Obedience to the Lord's will is the fruit of humble prayer. If you think God is inviting you to a deeper consecration as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Juan at [general@queenofapostles.org](mailto:general@queenofapostles.org) or Fr. J.D. Jaffe at [j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org) or (703) 841-2514.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent** For a deeper trust and openness to the Holy Spirit in people discerning a call to serve Christ as a priest deacon or in the consecrated life, we pray to the Lord.

### **Seminarians Hoops Challenge Basketball Game**

Come watch as the high school men from the Quo Vadis discernment group take on the Arlington seminarians, with guest referees Bishop Burbidge and Fr. Christopher Vaccaro. There will be vocational testimonies at halftime, a spirit squad competition, and a pizza party at the end. The event is Sunday, **Jan. 7, 2018**, 3 to 6 pm at the St. John Paul the Great High School gym. Families are welcome. High school boys interested in playing on the Quo Vadis team should contact the Office of Vocations, (703) 841-2514 or [vocations@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org). No RSVP is needed.

### **Gifts for the Seminarian Education Endowment**

**Fund (SEEF)** Please support our seminarians and SEEF, a permanent endowment fund established in 2011. SEEF's income provides funding for annual seminarian expenses such as room, board, tuition, health insurance and books, which total almost \$40,000 per seminarian. Please give generously! To donate, make checks payable to: "Foundation for the CDA - SEEF." Mail to: The Foundation, 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203. Contact Gretchen Koch at [g.koch@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:g.koch@arlingtondiocese.org) or (703) 841-3819 with questions.



### **Urgent Need for a Scheduled Adorer**

There is an urgent need for a scheduled Adorer on Tuesday morning, 6:00-7:00 am. Please contact Alexa Urban at (703) 241-1096 or [mole-ski47@gmail.com](mailto:mole-ski47@gmail.com) if you can commit to this hour.

### **Prayer for the Advent Wreath**

If you have an Advent Wreath, gather around it to pray:



Fourth Sunday of Advent

*O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth Your blessing upon this wreath, and grant that all who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from You abundant graces, Who lives and reigns forever. Amen.*

Then, for the Fourth week of Advent, as you light the fourth candle pray:

*Stir up Thy might, we pray Thee, O Lord, and come; rescue us through Thy great strength so that salvation, which has been hindered by our sins, may be hastened by the grace of Thy gentle mercy. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen*

## Schedule of Masses for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Christmas



### Christmas Eve - December 24

6:00 pm  
8:00 pm (Spanish)  
12 Midnight

### Christmas Day - December 25

8:00 am  
10:00 am  
12 Noon

### You May Be Wondering...

**Q:** This year the Fourth Sunday of Advent comes right before Christmas. Do we have to come to Mass twice?

**A:** Yes. Both Sunday and Christmas are Holy Days of Obligation. For this year, the faithful have two Mass obligations: the Fourth Sunday of Advent (**December 23/24**), and Christmas (**December 24/25**) which will need to be fulfilled by their participation in two Masses.

**Q:** How can we fulfill our Holy Day obligations?

**A:** We have six options. Come to Mass:

- (1) Saturday pm & Sunday pm (Christmas Eve)
- (2) Saturday pm & Monday am (Christmas Day)
- (3) Saturday pm & Monday pm (Christmas Day)
- (4) Sunday am & Sunday pm (Christmas Day)
- (5) Sunday am & Monday am (Christmas Day)
- (6) Sunday am & Monday pm (Christmas Day)

## Nourishing Our Souls With Holy Scripture

### Readings for Next Week:

#### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5  
Col 3:12-21 Lk 2:22-40



## Schedule of Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God



### January 1, 2018

9:00 am  
12 Noon  
7:00 pm (Bilingual, High Mass)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** Please note that the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will not be available on Wednesday evening, **Dec. 27**, Sunday, **Dec. 31**, and Monday, **Jan. 1, 2018**.

**Parish Office Closed for the Christmas Octave** The Parish Office will be closed from Monday, **Dec. 25, 2017** through Monday, **Jan. 1, 2018**. It will reopen on Tuesday, **Jan. 2**.

**Adoration Chapel** The Adoration Chapel will close on Saturday, **Dec. 23, 2017** before the 8 am Mass, and reopen on Monday, **Jan. 8, 2018** after the 6:30 am Mass.

## Fourth Sunday of Advent Masses this Week

### Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 24:

7:30 am +Inocencio Monillas  
9:00 am +Lou and Jeanne Wack  
10:30 am Living and Deceased Parishioners  
12:00 noon (L) Dilhani Siriwardane

### Christmas Eve - December 24:

6:00 pm +John Bartholme  
8:00 pm +Clara Walter and Edward Avella  
12 Midnight +Lucia and José Antonio Venero

### The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas

#### Monday, December 25:

8:00 am +Dennis Getz  
10:00 am +Theresa Subalusky  
12 noon +Efrén Policarpio

#### St. Stephen - Tuesday, December 26:

6:30 am (L) Rene Ruivivar  
9:00 am +Edgar Teran

#### St. John the Evangelist - Wednesday, December 27:

6:30 am +John Beacham  
9:00 am +Constance Seymour

#### The Holy Innocents - Thursday, December 28:

6:30 am +Romeo Monillas  
9:00 am (L) Fr. Daniel Mode

#### St. Thomas Becket - Friday, December 29:

6:30 am +Mr. and Mrs. Thach  
9:00 am +John Beacham

### Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

#### Saturday, December 30:

8:00 am +Mr. and Mrs. Thach  
5:00 pm +Emily Ruffing  
7:00 pm +Erika Rosas

### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

#### December 31:

7:30 am +Juan Alvarez  
9:00 am +Ben Wenger  
10:30 am Living and Deceased Parishioners  
12:00 noon +Carmen Solis



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

Roger Trozado, Michael McSherry, Rosa A. Valderrama, Daniel O'Donohue, Jeanie Miller, Rosa María Santos, Debbie DuBrul, Maddie Respicio-Cabatic, Helen Brooks Ruth Foreman and Baby, Charles Ferris, John Harchick, Jr., Dominic Blansett, Daisy Atiyeh, Dick Owens, Linda Intihar, Melencio Morales, Reyes Duran, Luong Bui, Nick Tullier, Rose Maalouf, Nicole Pack, Barbara J. Banis, Numa Osuna, Jr., Timmy Burnway, Etelvina and Patricia León-Duarte, Catherine Hanniff, Kristi Burns, Kathleen Donohoe, Mark Bush, Joseph Covas, Margaret Peiffer, David Stemcosky, Rita Sulit, Jason Banis, Emma Collins, Teresa Sabina Piecyk, Juana Mejia, Lisa Nyce, Monique Brooks, Debby Sprahnt, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlynn, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Donna Smith