



O come, let us adore Him

QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

CHRISTMAS WEEK Dec. 26 - Jan. 1

Weekday Masses: Mon - Fri 6:30 & 9 am, Sat 8 am

Weekend Masses: Sat 5 & 7 pm (in Spanish)
Sun 7:30, 9, 10:30 am and 12 noon

Confessions*: Mon 7 am, Sat 4 - 5 pm & 6 - 7 pm
Sun 8:30, 10 and 11:30 am

**Special schedule for Christmas Week only*

THE YEAR OF THE RULE OF LIFE

A Queen of Apostles Program: October 2016 - June 2017

The Rule of Life is a set of spiritual practices that allows our faith to be fully alive. Through these practices we grow in holiness. Each month during the Year of the Rule of Life, we propose one devotion to practice and to make a part of our everyday routines as Catholics. Wherever you feel you are in your prayer life, there is a “step” for you. So far during this year, we have introduced the **Rosary**, **Holy Mass** and **Prayer**.



October: The Rosary

Within the Universal Church, October is the month of the Rosary, perhaps the most popular devotion for Catholics. Through praying the Rosary, may Mary help us to grow in holiness and to be fully alive.

Step 1: Say a Decade of the Rosary each day. **Step 2:** Pray a Decade of the Rosary with others (family). **Step 3:** Pray the whole Rosary once a week. **Step 4:** Pray the Rosary every day.

Other Resources: Read St. John Paul II's apostolic letter *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*



November: Holy Mass

The Holy Mass is the source and summit of the Christian life. It is the most perfect worship we can offer God the Father. Receiving Jesus in Holy Communion we become one family in Him, grace grows in our hearts and we are made holy.

Our Obligation: Attend Sunday Mass and on holy days of obligation. **Step 1:** Arrive early to Mass to pray on the readings. **Step 2:** Attend Mass on specified feast days (All Souls, Sacred Heart, etc). **Step 3:** Attend a weekday Mass. **Step 4:** Attend Mass daily.

Other Resources: St. John Paul II, Encyclical Letter *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*. Scott Hahn, *The Lamb's Supper*.



December: Prayer

Christian prayer is the personal and living relationship of the children of God with their Father who is infinitely good; with his Son Jesus Christ; and with the Holy Spirit who dwells in their hearts. There is no holiness nor spiritual life without a deep experience of prayer.

Step 1: Pray a Morning Offering and Bedtime Prayer each day. **Step 2:** Devote 15 minutes of mental prayer once per week. **Step 3:** Commit to 5-10 minutes of mental prayer daily. **Step 4:** Commit to 10-30 minutes of mental prayer daily.

Other Resources: Ignatius Press' video "PRAYER: A Surge of the Heart" available on FORMED.ORG.

More FREE
Resources at

FORMED[®].org

Use Queen of
Apostles Parish
Code **Z37RTW**

Letter from the Pastor

Merry Christmas!

May the Lord who is born for us fill you with his abundant blessings and grant you a Christmas season full of joy, love and peace! I also wish that during this Christmas you will enjoy some extra time with your families and strengthen your family bonds.

Today, with the whole creation, we praise God our Father for loving us so much to give us his only begotten Son. With the angels we sing of God's glory. Today, with the shepherds and the Magi we approach in wonder the stable to offer our gifts. What do we bring to the Infant Jesus?

First, we bring the fruits of the earth, the bread and wine which we offer every day in the Mass. They are the fruit of the earth and work of our hands. All our projects, what we have accomplished, so many things we have done this year: we offer them to Jesus as we give thanks. As a Parish, we have done some substantial projects.

For them all we give thanks. They are a sign of the growth of our parish family.

In the Mass, the bread and wine are transformed into Jesus' body and blood. Likewise, our gifts are transformed with the whole creation into something new, and we ourselves are also transformed into Jesus. That is the mystery of Christmas: the Son of God becomes man so that men become children of God.

Jesus enters the life of the human family to make it a family fully alive. This transformation toward a new creation is spread in concentric circles: first each of us is transformed by the gift of the Holy Spirit to be fully alive. Second, each family grows to be fully alive becoming a beacon of light and hope for the world. Then, the parish family. We want Queen of Apostles to be also a family fully alive. Then the Diocese of Arlington and so on to the whole humanity.



May Jesus make us a family fully alive and may his light shine through our lives to illumine the whole world.

Sincerely in Christ,

Celebrating Thirty Years of the Disciples

And the 25-Year Anniversary of Fr. Leopoldo's Ordination



January 1, 2017 is a special day in the life of the Disciples of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary (DCJM). On January 1, 1987, the bishop of Cuenca approved the Disciples of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, marking the founding of this new religious order.

2017 is also the 25-year anniversary of our pastor Fr. Leopoldo M. Vives being ordained a priest; and the 10 year anniversary of the Disciples beginning their ministry serving Diocesan parishes, beginning with St. Mary's in Littleton, CO.

We are grateful for the ministry and service of the Disciples!



Join us for the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday, January 1 to celebrate these special anniversaries of our priests and pastor. Following the Mass there will be a celebratory reception in Hannan Hall.

Stewardship

A Disciple's Response

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

Once one chooses to become a disciple of Christ, stewardship is not an option.

Stewardship is fundamentally the work of the Spirit in our lives. When we accept our lives as sheer gifts, the Spirit can use us as apt instruments for spreading the Gospel. Wherever the Spirit works, there is joy. Good stewards are always the joyful bearers of the Good News of Salvation.

"We have seen the Lord!" (Jn 20:25). Stewardship always starts with the personal experience of the Risen Christ in our midst and in our hearts. It is a vocation to discipleship. The following of Christ as a disciple entails a personal response: the surrender of ourselves through grace and choice to Jesus Christ. Mature disciples make a conscious, firm decision, carried out in action, to be followers of Jesus Christ no matter the cost to themselves.

A disciple is both a learner and a companion of Jesus Christ, as well as one open to the movement of the Holy Spirit towards a gracious generosity of heart. The authentic disciple regards all he or she is and possesses as gifts and blessings and realizes the need to share those gifts and blessings with others for the sake of the kingdom of God.

Good stewards live with joy and gratitude for the blessings they have received—including those that have multiplied through diligence and hard work. Indeed, good stewards live in communion with Christ and through Christ and the Spirit strive to return all gifts to the Father "with an increase."

Stewardship is all-encompassing. It provides a place for the simplest individual gesture of kindness as well as stewardship communities working for systemic justice and peace. Stewardship flowing from a personal and communal relationship to Christ holds a particular attraction to people. It is, ultimately, the pull and the power of the Gospel come alive in our times and circumstances.

Jesus is calling you to follow Him this Christmas. How will you respond?



Stewardship of Time (Prayer)

As good stewards of prayer, we gratefully acknowledge God's presence in our lives and respond by investing ourselves. In nurturing this relationship, we are able to understand God's will for us. Our parish offers wonderful opportunities to be stewards of our relationship with God, especially through **Eucharistic Adoration**. Call the parish office to learn how you can become a regular adorers.

Stewardship of Talent

The Church is built up through personal participation in the Church's mission of proclaiming and teaching, serving and sanctifying. This participation takes different forms according to each person's varied gifts. To learn about our parish's many ministries and how you can steward your gifts through them, visit www.queenofapostles.org/ministry.

Stewardship of Treasure

Christian stewards realize that all our earthly possessions come from God and are entrusted to our care for the greater good of all. A good steward gives with a grateful heart, whether donating to the Church, the poor or other charities. Giving is an act of worship. It is an act of trust that God will always provide and He will not be outdone in generosity.

To make an online end of year gift to the parish, you may visit faithdirect.net and use parish code VA324. To learn how this gift will support our many needs in the coming year, call Dave Cook, at (703) 354-8711 ext. 11 or email d.cook@queenofapostles.org.

The Nativity of the Lord

Masses this Week

St. Stephen - Monday, December 26:

6:30 am + Efren Policarpio
9:00 am +Helen and Frank Zappacosta

St. John - Tuesday, December 27:

6:30 am (L) Fr. Seán Patrick Hurley, FPO
9:00 am +Porfirio Aprecio Arambula

The Holy Innocents - Wednesday, December 28:

6:30 am +Romeo Monillas
9:00 am +Luz Betty Nieto Santillan De Velez

Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Thursday, December 29:

6:30 am (L) Rosalie Mainey
9:00 am +Raymond Sweeney

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Friday, December 30:

6:30 am +Emily Peckman
9:00 am +Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Annelle Thach, Sr.

Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord - Saturday, December 31:

8:00 am +Reneé Tanoh
5:00 pm +Frederick Sage
7:00 pm +Margarita Avila
11:00 pm Ghana Catholic Community Vigil Mass

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord - January 1:

7:30 am (L) Miguel Saunders
9:00 am +Froilan Mate
10:30 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 noon +Lucia and José Antonio Venero

Nourishing Our Souls with Holy Scripture

Readings for Next Week

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God,
The Octave Day of the Nativity
of the Lord

Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21



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

Reyes Duran, Luong Bui, Nick Tullier, Anna Jeffrey, Rose Maalouf, Ronald Redman, Nicole Pack, Barbara J. Banis, Stephen Aldrich, Jessica Acot, Numa Osuna, Jr., Timmy Burnway, Etelvina and Carolina G. León-Duarte, J. Saunders, Catherine Hanniff, Kristi Burns, Francis Walter, Eduardo Vega, Deborah DuBrul, Kathleen Donohoe, Lyda Tanco, Mark Bush, Joseph Covas, Margaret Peiffer, David Stemcosky, Rita Sulit, Jason Banis, Emma Collins, Teresa Sabina Piecyk, Juana Mejia, Lisa Nyce, Monique Brooks, Debby Sprah, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlynn, Teresa Subalusky, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Donna Smith

This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, December 25:

No Religious Education Classes

Hannan Hall 2:00-5:30 pm Ghana Group

Monday, December 26:

Parish Office Closed, No RCIA Class

Cupertino Room 7:00-9:00 pm Hispanic Legion of Mary

Tuesday, December 27:

Hannan Hall 7:00-9:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 28:

No RCIA Class

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

Thursday, December 29:

Parish Office 6:30-8:00 pm Legion of Mary

Church 7:30-8:30 pm Holy Hour

Friday, December 30:

Adoration Chapel

Saturday, December 31:

Parish Office 1:00-3:30 pm Stephen Ministry
School 4:00-6:30 pm Spanish Prayer Group
School 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Choir
Church 10:00-11:00 pm GCC Holy Hour

January 1:

ACCA Food Collection, No Religious Education Classes

Parish Office Closures The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, **Dec. 26** and on Monday, **Jan. 2** for Christmas and New Year's, respectively.

Adoration Chapel Closed The Adoration Chapel will be closed all of this week, **Dec. 26 - Dec. 31**.

Early Deadlines for Jan. 1 and Jan. 8 Bulletins The deadline for submitting announcements for the **Jan. 1** bulletin was **Dec. 16**. The deadline for submitting announcements for the **Jan. 8** bulletin is **Dec. 28** by 9 am

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To sign up visit www.queenofapostles.org/news

Vocations

"He gave power to become children of God." If you think you may be called to share the Father's love as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life, contact Fr. Juan at general@queenofapostles.org or Fr. J.D. Jaffe at (703) 841-2514, or j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org.

Christmas That as Joseph and Mary welcomed the gift of the Child Jesus, all mothers and fathers will prayerfully foster each of their children's vocations in Christ and especially welcome His call for priests, brothers and sisters, we pray to the Lord.

