

QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Feast of the Holy Family - December 27, 2020



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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday 8:30 am-8pm

Thursday: 7:00-8:00 pm

OFFICE 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.

Est. 1966

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus:

I hope you had a beautiful celebration of the beginning of Christmas! Do not forget that we have just started this wonderful time. For business and those who do not practice the faith, it has already ended; but for us, it is just beginning, and will end this year on January 10, with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this time, we will meditate on the great mystery of the incarnation. Therefore, the lights and mangers will be in our homes until that day, and we will continue to celebrate with the same faith and love like the beginning.

Every year on the Sunday after Christmas Day, the church celebrates the Holy Family's feast and portrays it to us as an example of faith through Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. It is a day to pray for the families of our parish and to renew love among spouses. On this day, I always offer one of my masses for the increase of love in families that are so attacked today by evil because the family is the heart of the church and the future of society, and the world.

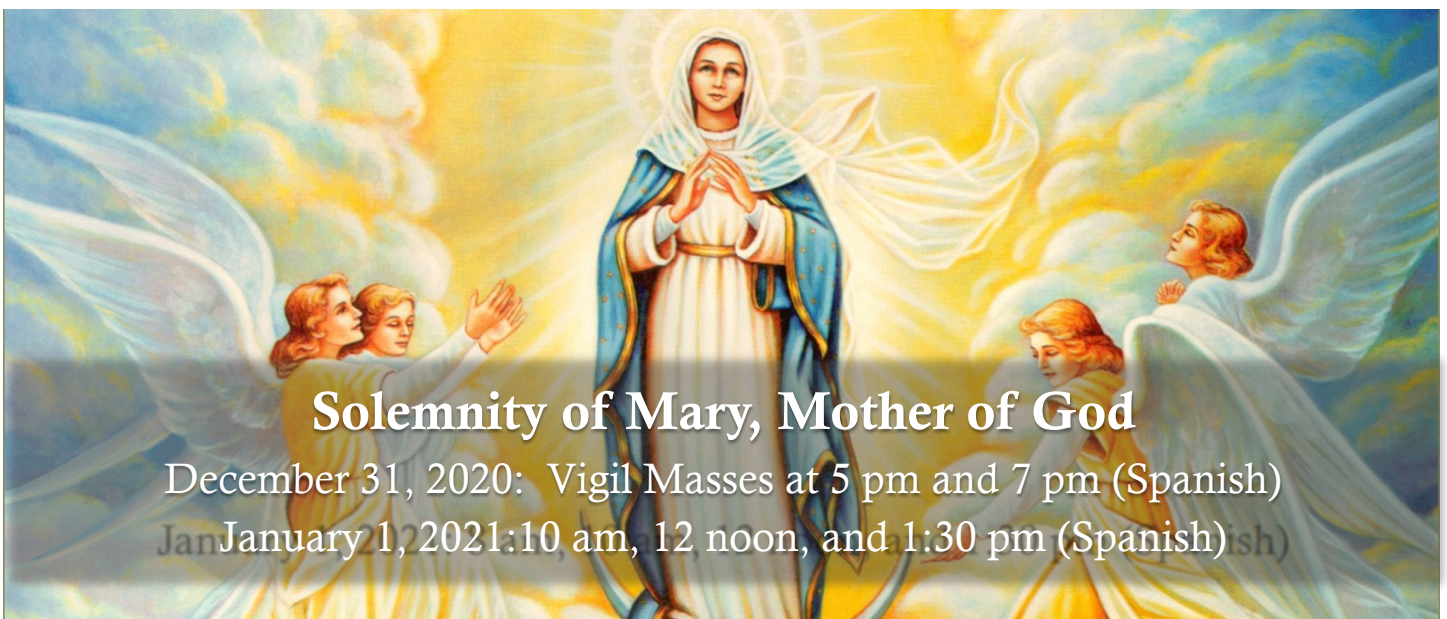
I thank all of your expressions of affection and warm greetings during this time. It is the first Christmas Father Rampino and myself share with all of you, and despite the pandemic, you have made us feel at home; believe me that we are trying to serve you as much as we can and give the best of us. A thousand thanks to all of you who have become our spiritual family since June. I also appreciate your donations in this time of sharing, our parish cannot move forward without your contributions, and thanks to your sharing heart, we can move on.

I thank and congratulate our parish staff for the hard work they have done this year; despite the pandemic, many worked from home and returned despite the fear of getting infected. I am very happy with all of them because we are a great team. They do their best to serve you as you deserve it; they always seek to show the face of Christ. As the pastor, they are not just employees; they are a family of faith that help me move this parish forward.

This is the last Sunday of this year, 2020 - a year that will be marked in the lives of all of us by all the challenges and how difficult it was at times; many of our friends and family will no longer be able to celebrate the New Year with us because they have returned to the Father's house. There are many parishioners I have not had the privilege to meet yet because they are at home as a safety measure, but I have faith that I will soon meet them. A year has passed, and we do not have to look back, but with faith and joy look forward. There is much to do, many battles to fight, and much to learn and grow in the grace of God. May the New Year be better; let us, therefore, ask God to protect us and help us in this year, 2021.

Happy New Year, I keep you in my prayers!

Fr. Alex



✝ RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ✝

Religious Education Information

Wishing our Religious Education families, catechists, aides, and volunteers a joyful Christmas season!

Confirmation sponsors of students need to obtain a Certificate of Eligibility from his/her home parish. Generally, the sponsor makes an appointment to meet with his/her parish priest to obtain the Certificate. During this busy time of year, please call ahead to make an appointment to meet with a priest. The Sponsor Certificate is due **Jan 10, 2021**. Students who did not attend the Nov 21 retreat will attend the **Jan 16, 2021** retreat at Queen of Apostles.

The registration form and fee from families, with unbaptized children who are preparing to receive the Three Sacraments of Initiation, is due **Jan. 10, 2021**.

Religious Education classes *will not meet Dec 20, 27, 2020* and **Jan 3, 2021**. At home work/projects may be assigned and due on **Jan 10** when classes resume.

We respectfully ask each family with children attending in-person classes to consider quarantining (not being around those outside your immediate circle or visiting high risk areas as noted by the CDC) starting on the morning of Wednesday, January 6, 2021 through the morning of Sunday, January 10, 2021. COVID-19 symptoms can start as early as 2 days and as long as 14 days after exposure. The average time that symptoms appear is around 4 - 5 days, hence, the rationale for quarantining with your child(ren) for at least 4 days before returning to Religious Education on Jan. 10, 2021 to monitor for developing symptoms. If symptoms develop, please contact your primary Health Care Provider immediately, do not attend Religious Education class, and send a message to s.gray@queenofapostles.org. We greatly value your partnership in taking extra precautions to keep Queen of Apostles parish, school, and Religious Education communities safe and healthy.

Do you have an unbaptized child 7 years old or are you a homeschool family with children preparing for Sacraments this upcoming school year? Call the parish office at 703-354-8711 ext. 10



RCIA RCIA-English classes will continue to meet on Tues nights, 7-8:30pm during Advent/Christmas *except for Dec 29, 2020*. RCIA-Spanish classes will continue to meet on Wed nights, 7-8:30pm. *Check with the catechist about meeting Dec 23*

Altar Servers—Serving our Lord in the Eucharist The Diocese has given us permission to have 2-3 altar servers present at each Sunday Mass (currently 8am, 10am, 12noon) and other Masses to assist with the sacred liturgy. Seasoned and new servers are invited. If your son is willing to serve at Holy Mass, please send a message to Susan Gray at s.gray@queenofapostles.org or talk with Fr. Rampino. The December Mass schedule has been sent to families. Boys 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.



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.

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

Masses This Week

Solemnity of Holy Family - Sunday, December 27:

8:00 am (L) The Godbey Family and their intentions
 10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
 12:00 pm +Gavino and Demetria Monzon
 1:30 pm +Kevin O'Brien

Monday, December 28:

6:30 am (L) Robert Corcoran
 9:00 am +Daniel O'Donohue

Tuesday, December 29:

6:30 am +David Demestri
 9:00 am +Jocelyn Walter Graham

Wednesday, December 30:

6:30 am +The father of Kim Meerman
 9:00 am +Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Thach

Thursday, December 31:

6:30 am +Sergio Villahermosa
 9:00 am +John and Jean Kakareka
 5:00 pm +Kathy Ippolito
 7:00 pm +Napolean Sierra

Friday, January 1:

8:00 am +Leo Weston
 10:00 am +Mr. and Mrs. Francis J. Hoyer
 12:00 pm Living and Deceased Parishioners
 1:30 pm +Mr. and Mrs. Dom Menick

Saturday, January 2:

8:00 am (L) Rick Sacra
 5:00 pm (L) Mr. and Mrs. Chedid
 7:00 pm +Martha Almanza Vidal

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:



SCAN ME

VA234



Thank you for your support!

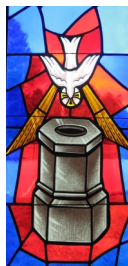


December 27 - Feast of the Holy Family

Scripture tells us practically nothing about the first years and the boyhood of the Child Jesus. All we know are the facts of the sojourn in Egypt, the return to Nazareth, and the incidents that occurred when the twelve-year-old boy accompanied his parents to Jerusalem. In her liturgy the Church hurries over this period of Christ's life with equal brevity. The general breakdown of the family, however, at the end of the past century and at the beginning of our own, prompted the popes, especially the far-sighted Leo XIII, to promote the observance of this feast with the hope that it might instill into Christian families something of the faithful love and the devoted attachment that characterize the family of Nazareth. The primary purpose of the Church in instituting and promoting this feast is to present the Holy Family as the model and exemplar of all Christian families.

Parish Office Closures The Parish Office will be closed on **December 31** and **January 1** in observance of the New Year as well as the Solemnity of Mary. We wish you a blessed Christmas season and a very happy New Year!

Baptism Guidelines Please note our new Baptism registration guidelines: For those looking to have their children baptized on our scheduled dates throughout the year, please make sure to have all paperwork submitted by the **Monday** before the Baptism. We will not be able to accept paperwork submitted at the end of the week, as we have to prepare certificates ahead of time. Thank you for your cooperation.



Early Bulletin Deadlines Due to printing schedules, some information in the posted bulletin may be out of date by the time the bulletin is published, so please visit the parish website or call the Parish Office (703) 354-8711 for any updates.

Give a Gift for Life Please give a Gift for Life this season to help Project Rachel provide counseling and healing retreats to those who suffer the effects of abortion. One participant wrote: "The genuine love and support from the Project Rachel retreat has enabled me to let go of my anger and deep pain from my abortion. I am like a new person who has left the darkness and entered the light." For more information and/or to donate: www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife

Text and Email Scams Please be vigilant about fraudulent solicitation texts and emails appearing to come from our priests and staff. Authentic requests for donations from the parish will always direct parishioners to FaithDirect, PayPal, or other legitimate websites with secure online forms. Never will the parish ask for gift cards or for money to be transferred directly to an account. If you have received a fraudulent text or email, it is important that you report the email to the local police by calling the non-emergency hotline and requesting the financial crimes department.

Gospel Commentary for the Feast of the Holy Family: God's Little Home

Fr. Joseph Rampino

I had a philosophy professor in college who had a great devotion to Our Blessed Mother. Whenever he would think of her or speak of her, he would always stop and tell us “God loved mothers so much that He wanted to experience having one Himself.” I always loved that little thought, and all of its beautiful corollaries and consequences, paradoxical as it all might be, and it seems like the perfect thought for us as we celebrate this feast of the Holy Family.

We shouldn't lose the sense of how amazing it is for us to say that in Jesus Christ, God has a family. Christ our God is the eternal Word of the Father, exists in a perpetual now, beyond past or future, holds all things in existence by His omnipotent will, is beyond the comprehension of every being, angel of human, no matter how wise, and yet still goes home with his mom and dad at the end of the Gospel today. It seems almost absurd to consider that this little baby, who goes back to Nazareth with His parents, where He will grow, learn to speak, walk, read, write, and carry out a trade, is in fact the Master of Reality, the King of Kings, and the Lord of Lord. Yet, despite the seeming contradiction, He is.

Remembering the mystery of Christmas, we understand that Christ took on our human nature in everything but sin in order to stand in our place before the Father, and redeem in our form what we had disfigured by sin, and repair the relationship with the God whom we had rejected. We recall that He came to save us in this way to draw us to Himself gently, through methods on our level, things we could understand with our human minds. This feast of the Holy Family, though, goes further, and shows us the great love God has for even the most normal human parts of our lives, and the way in which He wants to save us.

Despite the grand scale on which the conflict between good and evil takes place, the Lord still loves our lives on their own scale. He loves the myriad little homes that cover the face of the Earth, and He loves the little communities that fills them, delighting when they choose to love one another, and calling them to repentance and healing when they do not. He loves mothers and father, and the unique roles that they play in the lives of their children. What's more, God doesn't want to save humanity as merely a conglomerate of individuals, one grand club of private members who each decide on their own to stay or leave according to the dictates of conscience. God wishes to save us as a family, as one body bound together by threads of love. He does not intend heaven to be a place of private and individualistic satisfaction of each monad, but a final perfect family without any pain, fear, suspicion, or barriers, living in peace with God and one another forever.

The medievals used to define beauty briefly as “unity in diversity.” Considering the union between the things of Heaven and the things of Earth found in the perfection of Christ dwelling with His Holy Mother and St. Joseph in their little home at Nazareth, could we find anything more lovely in this world? Hardly! May the surpassing beauty of that dear family fill us with joy and hope, and move our hearts with love for God, and for the family he has given us here in the Church.



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. We have sent out letters to those families who have not yet pledged 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 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 Sprah, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlynn, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Russ and Jill Amerling, Richard Esterlund, Margaret Fiore, Michael Robertson, Mr. Cervantes, Jocelyn Reyes, Wilma Robles, Maryann McNutt, Yolanda Arzadon

CARTA DEL PÁRROCO

Queridos hermanos en Cristo Jesús:

Espero que hayan tenido una bonita celebración del inicio de la navidad, no olviden que apenas hemos iniciado este maravilloso tiempo, para el comercio y los que no practican la fe, ya ha terminado, pero para nosotros apenas comienza, y culminara este año el 10 de enero con la fiesta del Bautismo del Señor, durante este tiempo meditaremos en el gran misterio de la encarnación, por tanto, las luces y los pesebres estarán en nuestra casa hasta ese día y lo continuaremos celebrando con la misma fe y amor que desde el principio.

Cada domingo después del día de navidad, la iglesia celebra la fiesta de la Sagrada Familia, y nos la pone como ejemplo de fe, a Jesús María y José, es un día para orar por las familias de nuestra parroquia, y para renovar el amor entre los esposos, este día siempre ofrezco una de mis misas por el incremento del amor en las familias que tan atacadas están hoy día por el demonio, porque la familia es el corazón de la iglesia y el futuro de la sociedad y el mundo.

Agradezco a todos sus muestras de cariño y sus cálidos saludos en este tiempo, ha sido la primera navidad del Padre Rampino y yo, y a pesar de la pandemia nos han hecho sentir en casa, créame que estamos tratando de servirles al máximo y dar lo mejor de nosotros. Mil gracias a todos ustedes que desde el 25 de junio se han convertido en nuestra familia espiritual. También agradezco sus donaciones en este tiempo de compartir, nuestra parroquia no puede avanzar sin sus donaciones, y gracias a su corazón que comparte podemos seguir hacia adelante.

Agradezco y felicito al Staff de nuestra parroquia por el arduo trabajo que han realizado este año, a pesar de la pandemia muchos trabajaron desde sus casas y regresaron a pesar del miedo a contagiarse, estoy muy contento con todos ellos porque somos un gran equipo de trabajo, dan lo mejor para atenderles a ustedes como se lo merecen, siempre buscan mostrar el rostro de Cristo, para mí como párroco, no son solo empleados, son una familia de fe que me ayudan a sacar adelante esta parroquia.

Este es el último domingo de este año 2020, un año que quedara marcado en la vida de todos nosotros por todos los retos y todas lo difícil que fue por momentos; muchos de nuestros amigos y familiares ya no podrán celebrar el nuevo año con nosotros porque se fueron a la casa del Padre, muchos de nuestros buenos parroquianos no he tenido el privilegio de conocerles porque están en sus casas por precaución, pero tengo fe que pronto les conoceremos. Un año que se va, y no tenemos que volver a ver hacia atrás, sino con fe y alegría ver hacia adelante, hay mucho que hacer muchas batallas que luchar y mucho por aprender y crecer en la gracia de Dios. Que el nuevo año sea de sea mejor, pidamos por tanto a Dios que nos proteja y ayude en este año 2021.

Feliz año nuevo, les tengo presentes en mis oraciones.

P. Alex



Misas esta semana

Domingo 27 de diciembre:

8:00 am	(L) The Godbey Family and their intentions
10:00 am	Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm	+Gavino and Demetria Monzon
1:30 pm	+Kevin O'Brien

Lunes 28 de diciembre:

6:30 am	(L) Robert Corcoran
9:00 am	+Daniel O'Donohue

Martes 29 de diciembre:

6:30 am	+David Demestri
9:00 am	+Jocelyn Walter Graham

Miércoles 30 de diciembre:

6:30 am	+The father of Kim Meerman
9:00 am	+Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Thach

Jueves 31 de diciembre:

6:30 am	+Sergio Villahermosa
9:00 am	+John and Jean Kakareka
5:00 pm	+Kathy Ippolito
7:00 pm	+Napolean Sierra

Viernes 1 de enero:

8:00 am	+Leo Weston
10:00 am	+Mr. and Mrs. Francis J. Hoyer
12:00 pm	Living and Deceased Parishioners
1:30 pm	+Mr. and Mrs. Dom Menick

Sabado 2 de enero:

8:00 am	(L) Rick Sacra
5:00 pm	(L) Mr. and Mrs. Chedid
7:00 pm	+Martha Almanza Vidal

Horario de la Oficina Parroquial La Oficina Parroquial permanecerá cerrada los días 31 de diciembre y 1 de enero en cumplimiento del Año Nuevo, así como de la solemnidad de María. Le deseamos una bendita temporada de Navidad y un muy feliz Año Nuevo!

Plazos tempranos para el boletín Debido a los horarios de impresión, parte de la información en el boletín publicado puede estar desactualizada en el momento en que se publica el boletín, así que por favor visite el sitio web de la parroquia o llame a la Oficina Parroquial (703) 354-8711 para cualquier actualización.

Nuevas pautas de registro de

bautismo Para las familias interesadas en bautizar a sus hijos, por favor envíe toda la documentación una semana antes del bautismo. Gracias por su cooperación



¿Te has suscrito a la donación electrónica de la Parroquia a través de Faith Direct? Para unirse a Faith Direct, comience simplemente **enfocando la cámara de su teléfono en este código QR!**



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También puede visitar faithdirect.net e inscribirse en línea utilizando nuestro código parroquial: **VA234**

¡Gracias por su apoyo!



27 de diciembre: La Escritura no nos dice prácticamente nada sobre los primeros años y la niñez del Niño Jesús. Todo lo que sabemos son los hechos de la estancia en Egipto, el regreso a Nazaret y los incidentes ocurridos cuando el niño de doce años acompañó a sus padres a Jerusalén. En su liturgia, la Iglesia se apresura a lo largo de este período de la vida de Cristo con la misma brevedad. La descomposición general de la familia, sin embargo, a finales del siglo pasado y al principio de la nuestra, llevó a los papas, especialmente al lejano León XIII, a promover la observancia de esta fiesta con la esperanza de que pudiera inculcar a las familias cristianas algo de amor fiel y el apego devoto que caracterizan a la familia de Nazaret. El objetivo principal de la Iglesia al instituir y promover esta fiesta es presentar a la Sagrada Familia como modelo y ejemplo de todas las familias cristianas.

De un Regalo por la Vida Por favor, de un Regalo por la Vida esta temporada para ayudar al Proyecto Gabriel a financiar el cuidado de maternidad de una madre. Una futura madre escribió: "Doy gracias por las oraciones y la intervención de las personas que estaban fuera de la clínica de abortos y decidí llamar a Proyecto Gabriel. Ahora gracias a ellos tengo mi primera cita médica para ver cómo está mi bebé y realmente es una bendición todo lo que he recibido". Para más información y/o para donar: www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife

Estafas por correo electrónico y mensajes de texto

Por favor, esté atento a los textos de solicitud fraudulentos y correos electrónicos que parecen provenir de nuestros sacerdotes y personal. Las solicitudes auténticas de donaciones de la parroquia siempre dirigirán a los feligreses a FaithDirect, PayPal u otros sitios web legítimos con formularios seguros en línea. La parroquia nunca pedirá tarjetas de regalo o que el dinero se transfiera directamente a una cuenta. Si ha recibido un mensaje de texto o correo electrónico fraudulento, es importante que informe del correo electrónico a la policía local llamando a la línea directa que no es de emergencia y solicitando al departamento de delitos financieros.