



# QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

*O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin prepared a worthy dwelling for your Son, grant, we pray, that, as you preserved her from every stain by virtue of the Death of your Son, which you foresaw, so, through her intercession, we, too, may be cleansed and admitted to your presence. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.*

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

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## CLERGY

Fr. Juan Espino, DCJM, Pastor  
Fr. Javier O'Connor, DCJM, Parochial Vicar  
Fr. Jaime de Cendra, 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

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## 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 7:00 am through Saturday 7:45 am

## QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

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## Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Please join us in celebrating the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary this **Monday, December 9**. A bilingual Mass will be celebrated at 7 pm.

**Religious Education** The patron saint report/poster is due Dec 8, 2019 from students in grade 8-high school who desire the Sacrament of Confirmation. Reports/posters are to be submitted to the catechists.

The registration form and fee from baptized students in grade 2 and above who desire the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion are due **Dec 8, 2019**.

We wish our Religious Education families a prayerful Advent. RE classes will not meet on **Dec 22** and **29, 2019**. Classes resume on **Jan 5, 2020**.

**Bulletin Deadline** The deadline for submitting announcements for the **Dec. 15** bulletin is **Dec. 9**. Please email announcements to [general@queenofapostles.org](mailto:general@queenofapostles.org)

**Lectors Needed!** Our parish had a successful Ministry Fair in September — however, we're still in need of volunteers to serve as Lectors/Readers at the 7:30 Sunday Masses. If you're interested, please see the Lector after Mass, or please contact the parish office.

**Penance Service** There will be a Penance service with the regular Holy Hour on **Dec. 19** from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. This is a great opportunity to receive the graces of the Sacrament just in time for Christmas.

**Women's Group** The Women's Group will hold their annual Christmas Party on **Wed., December 11** at 10:00 am in Hannan Hall. We will have a sing along, great fellowship and delicious goodies!

**Thank You** for your generous contribution to the Poor Box. This weekend's collection will go toward **ACCA** and **The Missionaries of Charity**. Next weekend's collection will go toward the **School Fund**.

**RCIA** During Advent, we pray for our 20+ catechumens and candidates as they continue learning about and living the Catholic faith:



*For our catechumens and candidates desiring union with the Catholic faith; that we support them as we reform our own lives and prepare the way of the Lord by making time for prayer and reflection on the Gospel. We pray, Come, Lord Jesus.*

**To Progress in Love: Ignatian Spiritual Exercises in Spanish** Queen of Apostles invites you to a weekend of Spiritual Exercises led by Fr. Javier O'Connor, DCJM that seeks to foster spiritual growth and an intimate encounter with God through reflections and contemplation in the silence of prayers. It is a three day retreat held in Spanish at the San Damiano Spiritual Life Center from **Feb. 13 - Feb.16, 2020**. Registration is now open. Please consider signing up early as spots fill up quickly by calling the Parish office at 703-354-8711.



**Vocations Crucifix** Families at Queen of Apostles are invited to host the Vocations Crucifix for one week. The Vocations Crucifix Program is a means of developing prayer and devotion among our parish families, the seed beds of vocations. During a weekend Mass, a family receives the crucifix and hosts it for a week. The crucifix is placed in a place of honor so the family can gather daily to pray for and promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life. To sign-up, please contact Susan Gray at 703-354-8711 or [s.gray@queenofapostles.org](mailto:s.gray@queenofapostles.org)

**Altar Servers** Thank you to our 40+ altar servers for serving the Lord, the priest, and parishioners. Remember to arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of Mass and to sign-in. Please respond about serving Christmas and Mother of God Masses. Sts. John Berchmans and Tarcisius, pray for us.

## Pastor's Letter

When the Advent wreath was lit last Sunday, we were reminded that the light from the candles represents Christ – a light growing stronger each week as the Lord comes nearer. The people of Israel were a people who walked in darkness, awaiting the saving light, the lamp that would guide their steps in truth and righteousness. Like the people of Israel, our hearts seek the coming of our Savior to redeem us and our families. Our hearts weigh heavily with the darkness of our sins, the sins of our society, and with the consequences of sin. We look with hope to the Light.



Mary - whose Immaculate Conception is celebrated on December 8, but whose feast is transferred this year to Monday – is the dawn announcing the rising of the Sun of justice. Mary, the beloved daughter, becomes the seat of Wisdom and also the Arc of the Covenant. St. Augustine stated that she first welcomed the Lord in her heart and then in her womb. The Creator found a dwelling place in the heart of Mary.

Let us turn to Mary as we continue to live with great hope this Advent season. May it be for us a time in which we step out of the darkness of our own sin and determine to walk in the light of the Lord. Christ desires to find a home in our own heart. This Advent, let us strive to have a heart like Mary, a heart without sin. While it is not easy to change our ways, Mary says to us: “Am I not here that I am your mother?” These words which she spoke to St. Juan Diego she repeats to us. Mary is ready to attain for us the graces that we need so that our desires are transformed. This Advent let us awake from our slumber and walk closer to the Light that is Christ.

### ***Toward a Family of Families Capital Campaign***

We need your help. Since August, we have been working very intensely on securing the funds required to carry out much needed upgrades in our parish. We all recognize the attention that things require with age. As a Family of Families it is important that we all make an effort to participate. Many of the projects that we are talking about have to do with repairs that cannot wait because of safety reasons and others because things are no longer working properly. In order to be able to gather for the Liturgy, a suitable worship space is necessary with working air conditioning, roof, lighting... Similarly, we cannot contribute to the solid formation of our children if our school building is not in proper order.

This Sunday I will speak at all the Masses inviting your family to make a sacrificial, five-year pledge so that together we may be able to address these capital projects, which go beyond our ordinary operations. Please take time to review the brochure in the pew and consider at what level you are able to help. Thank you in advance for your generosity. We have benefited greatly from the sacrifice of others. May the future generations benefit also from our own generosity to this capital campaign. To reach our goal and be able to carry out the proposed projects, we will need your collaboration. The Good Lord will know best how to repay you.

Please pray for the generosity of other parishioners as well and for the overall success of the Toward a Family of Families Capital Campaign.

~Fr. Juan Espino, DCJM



## Fiesta de la Virgen de Guadalupe “La Emperatriz De America”

Los invitamos a la Novena, Mañanitas, Misa y celebración de la fiesta de la Virgen de Guadalupe.

**Novena:** Del 3 al 11 de Diciembre en la iglesia (12/8: 7 pm, 12/9: 6:30 pm., 12/10: 7 pm., 12/11: 7 p.m.)

**Mañanitas :** Jueves 12 a las 5:00 a.m. Se bendecirán imágenes y los invitamos a un desayuno después en el Hannan Hall.

**Misa Solemne Bilingüe :** Jueves 12 a las 7 pm. Representación de las Apariciones de la Virgen de Guadalupe a las 6:00 pm. Los niños están invitados a vestir sus trajes típicos. Habrá Mariachi y un compartir en el Hannan Hall.

**Cualquier consulta contactarse con:** Trinidad Torres (703) 333-2054 o Lucero González (571)282-1664

## This Week In Our Parish

### Second Sunday of Advent - December 8:

School 9:00-10:15 am Religious Education  
 Hannan Hall 8:30am-1:30pm Sunday Social and Christmas Bazaar  
 School Gym 11:30 am-7pm CYO Basketball  
 Hannan Hall 2:00 pm-5:30pm Ghana Group  
 Adoration Chapel 6:00-8:00 pm Prayer Group

### Monday, December 9:

All Saints Hall 6:00-8:00 pm Capital Campaign Phone-a-thon  
 Parish Center & Notre Dame 7:30-9:00 pm RCIA

### Tuesday, December 10:

Hannan Hall 3:00-5:00 pm Children's Choir Practice  
 Hannan Hall 7:00-9:00 pm Choir Practice

### Wednesday, December 11:

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

### Thursday, December 12:

Parish Office 6:30-8:00 pm Legion of Mary  
 Church 7:00-8:00 pm NO Holy Hour, Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

### Friday, December 13:

Adoration Chapel 3:00-4:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

### Saturday, December 14:

Parish Center 12:00-5:00 pm Christian Life Program  
 Hannan Hall 12:00-10:00 pm Couples for Christ  
 School 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Choir Practice

**Visit the Adoration Chapel during our hours of need!** Our Chapel is open 24 hours a day, Monday 7 am through Saturday 8 am (midnight hours require a passcode for entry). Greatest hours of need include:



- **Tues., 4-5am, Wed. 12 midnight-1 am** \*Critical need for permanent adorers\* Contact Alexa Urban at (703) 241-1096 or [moleski47@gmail.com](mailto:moleski47@gmail.com) for these hours of need
- **Tues 3-4 pm; Wed 1-5 pm; Thurs 3-4 pm; Fri 2-3 pm** \*Critical need for a permanent adorer\* Contact Rosalie Mainey at (703) 256-5765 or [rosalieam@msn.com](mailto:rosalieam@msn.com) for these hours of need



### 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 of the parish by calling (703) 354-8711, or e-mailing [general@queenofapostles.org](mailto:general@queenofapostles.org)

## Nourishing Our Souls With Holy Scripture

### Readings for Next Week

#### Third Sunday of Advent

IS 35:1-6A, 10  
 JAS 5:7-10

PS 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10  
 MT 11: 2-11



### Vocations

As John baptized in the desert, is the Holy Spirit calling you to tend his flock in the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life? Call Father Michael Isenberg (703) 841-2514, or write: [michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org)

**Second Sunday of Advent** That the Holy Spirit, will call men and women, in the same way as he called John the Baptist, to follow Christ as priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers, we pray to the Lord.

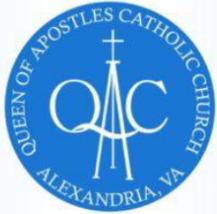
**Be an Angel, Help a Child** The Advent Angel Tree is set up in the back of the Church. Unwrapped gifts need to be returned to the church the week-end of **Dec. 14 & 15**. This year we will be accepting clothing, books and educational toys/games only. No gift cards, please. Gifts returned earlier than Dec. 14 need to be brought directly to the parish office. Thank you for your generosity in bringing the joy of Christmas to a child in need this year.



**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.

### Monthly collection: November 2019

Sunday Offertory	\$46,295
Faith Direct—Electronic Giving	\$28,491
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$74,786</b>



## Capital Campaign Commitment Weekend

### CAMPAIGN QUICK FACTS

**Goal**  
\$2,500,000

**Amount Secured**  
(as of 12/04)  
\$1,778,978

71% of Goal!

### Projects Completed

Organ  
HVAC

### Next Project

Church Roof  
/ Lighting  
and Sound  
Repair

## Commitment Weekend is Here!

Today, all families at Queen of Apostles will be asked to complete a Commitment Weekend card and return it during Mass. A special thanks to those who have volunteered their time for the *Towards a Family of Families* Campaign and to all families who have made a gift to support our efforts, bringing us to where we are today.

*Please pray for our success!*

**Join the 148 families who have made gifts!**  
**Please use this chart to prayerfully consider your decision.**

Daily Commitment	Monthly Commitment	Yearly Commitment	Total Commitment	My Sacrifice Equals
\$13	\$400	\$4,800	\$24,000	Dinner & Movie WEEKLY
\$7	\$200	\$2,400	\$12,000	Dining out WEEKLY
\$5	\$150	\$1,800	\$9,000	Value meal DAILY
\$4	\$100	\$1,200	\$6,000	Cable Bill MONTHLY
\$2	\$50	\$600	\$3,000	Small Coffee DAILY
\$1	\$30	\$360	\$1,800	Lottery Ticket DAILY

### Renovate the Church Interior \$1,600,000

- Roof
- Church Organ
- Confessional Renovation
- Audio System Upgrades
- Safety enhancements
- Lighting Improvements
- Vestibule Bathrooms
- HVAC

### Renovate our School \$400,000

- Continuing Renovations
- Replacing Bathrooms
- Expanding Green Space

### Transform the Parish Office \$500,000

- Increased space for ministry and community gatherings
- Create a Parish Family Center



**Knights of Columbus  
Pope John Paul II 4522**

**Keep Christ in Christmas-Cards** *Last week of sales!*  
Share the good news of the birth of Jesus Christ with your family and friends with reasonably priced Knights of Columbus Religious Christmas cards. These Christmas messages will be available after all Masses in the vestibule. Please Note: Proceeds from Christmas Card sales go directly to support our Diocesan seminarians.

**Coats for Kids** Thanks to your outstanding generosity, we were able to meet our requests for Coats this year. On behalf of the many children that will enjoy a wonderful, warm, winter coat this season....THANK YOU and God Bless!



**Peace in the Womb: Pro-Life Christmas Caroling** Please join us for Christmas caroling at the local Abortion mill, 5999 Stevenson Ave in Alexandria right across from the old location in the LANDMARK Towers. It's part of a National effort: <https://proliferaction.org/action/caroling/> **Sat., Dec. 21** immediately following the 8 AM Mass at Queen of Apostles. We will have Hot Chocolate, Coffee and Donuts. Remember: One baby changed everything!



**Discover Queen of Apostles Catholic School**



*What's New At the School?*

Dear families,  
This Friday, we had our Post Sacramental program ceremony for 7th grade during the School Mass. Just as the precedent grades, they received a sacramental sign for this year. The sign was the Cross. They were invited to have it on their desk at home where they do their homework. Our 7th graders committed to offer to Christ their daily study. In that way, their desk would become like the cross in which they offer themselves to God. Study can be sometimes hard and difficult - it is in those moments when a student can pick up the cross and follow Christ.  
Our 8th graders will receive the sacramental sign next Monday, Dec. 9th in the 9:00 am Mass at the Parish. The sign will be the Creed written on a beautiful card. As they are preparing to leave our school for High School, they are called to bring the faith with them and to preach it to everyone. It is time for them to get ready to be sent on a mission. The commitment our students will make is to pray once a week the Creed with their family, if possible, and to reflect on it. As always, you are all invited to attend and to pray for our students.

~Fr. James de Cendra

**Second Sunday of Advent  
Masses this Week**

**Second Sunday of Advent, December 8:**

7:30 am (L) Fidel and Nenita De Guzman  
9:00 am +Christina Lynem  
10:30 am Living and Deceased Parishioners  
12:00 pm +Else Ryan

**Immaculate Conception - Monday, December 9:**

6:30 am (L) Anthony Frei  
9:00 am In Thanksgiving to the Blessed Mother  
7:00 pm + Roberto and Blanca Quiroga

**Tuesday, December 10:**

6:30 am (L) Fr. Juan Espino, DCJM  
9:00 am +John and Jean Kakareka

**St. Damasus I, Pope- Wednesday, December 11:**

6:30 am +Arcenio Melchor  
9:00 am (L) Mary Petrick

**Our Lady of Guadalupe- Thursday, December 12:**

6:30 am (L) James Saunders  
9:00 am +Wilma Jenkinson

**St. Lucy- Friday, December 13:**

6:30 am +Melanio Palugod  
9:00 am +Kevin Bonko

**St. John of the Cross- Saturday, December 14:**

8:00 am +Socorro De Jesus  
5:00 pm (L) Fr. Javier O'Connor, DCJM  
7:00 pm (L) Fr. Jaime De Cendra, DCJM

**Third Sunday of Advent, December 15:**

7:30 am +Mercedes Henning  
9:00 am +Alice Jean Christman  
10:30 am Living and Deceased Parishioners  
12:00 pm +Betty Quinn

*“Those whose hearts are pure are temples of the Holy Spirit” - St. Lucy*



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

Jin C. Navarro, Leo Monteroso, Etelvina León-Duarte, George and Ginny Cook, Olivia Castillo Asnis, Maria Reyes, Anna Anderson, Michelle Jacobeen, Pedro Baiza, 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, David Stemcosky, 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, Michael Black, Delaney Liskey, Dean Richardson, Margaret Fiore