



QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

4401 Sano Street, Alexandria, VA 22312
703-354-8711 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

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

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

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

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

HOLY HOUR SCHEDULE

Thursday: 7:30-8:30 pm

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 7 am through Saturday 7:45 am

QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

4409 Sano Street,
Alexandria, VA 22312
Kathy Littlefield, Principal
Maria Fox, Secretary
(703) 354-0714
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.

Mary, Queen of Apostles, pray for us.

Fatima/Rome Pilgrimage - April 7-17 Thank you for your continued spiritual and financial support of the Fatima/Rome Pilgrimage. Seven young men will be traveling with Fr. Juan and Mr. Ketchmark to Fatima, Portugal and Rome, Italy during **Holy Week 2017**. As you pray for Andrew, Deion, Eduardo, Glen, Jason, Miguel, and Vincent during this journey of faith, they will be praying for you and your intentions. Prayer intentions cards are available in the parish office and at fundraisers.

You can help defray the costs of the pilgrimage by purchasing delicious Mystic Monk Coffee (beans are roasted by the Carmelite Monks in Cody, WY), car raffle tickets, and snacks and donuts during CYO basketball games **Feb. 25-26**. Donations by cash or check, payable to Queen of Apostles, are greatly appreciated. Questions? Please contact s.gray@queenofapostles.org or call (703) 354-8711.

Fr. Juan will meet with pilgrims on **Feb. 27** and **Mar. 6** at 6 pm in the parish office.

Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us. Saints Peter and Paul, pray for us.

Emmaus - High School/Young College Students

Emmaus meets on Fridays, 6-8 pm at Queen of Apostles. On the first Friday of the month, Open Gym is held at the School Gym. On other Fridays, meet Fr. Juan at Notre Dame Graduate School (4407 Sano Street) for a faith discussion, adoration, prayer, and other activities. The next Open Gym is on **Mar. 3**. The next Emmaus meeting at Notre Dame is on **Mar. 10**.

Nazareth is open to students in grades 4-8, and meets on the first and third Fridays of the month. Meet Fr. Juan and other Nazareth leaders in Hannan Hall. Sign-in begins at 3:45 pm with activities beginning at 4:00 pm. Parent sign-out is at 5:30 pm. The next Nazareth meetings are **Mar 3, 17**.

Parents are needed to help with snacks and activities. Please contact s.gray@queenofapostles.org if you can help.

Spring/Summer Exchanges with QofA/Stella

Maris Plans are underway to welcome students/teachers from the Stella Maris School for spring/summer. If interested in learning about hosting, please send a message to general@queenofapostles.org. Thanks to our parish families who have hosted students/teachers over the last two years.

Religious Education Service hours and report were due on **Feb. 12** from students desiring and preparing for Confirmation or the three Sacraments of Initiation.

Sacraments of Initiation students and adults, and their godparents/sponsors, are to meet with Fr. Juan on Saturday, **Mar. 11** at 10 am inside the church for "Learn the Liturgy". In order to familiarize the students and adults with the Liturgy, Fr. Juan will explain the parts of the Mass and review responses. Parents are welcome to attend, too.

On Sunday, **Mar. 19** at 9 am, Fr. Juan will meet with parents of students who desire and are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The meeting will be held in the school's multipurpose room.

Rite of Election/Call to Continuing Conversion,

March 5 Our students and adults who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation, and their godparents/sponsors, are attending the Rite of Election on Sunday, **Mar. 5** at 2:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More.

Please keep our catechumens and candidates in your prayers as they bear witness to their developing Catholic faith and their commitment to Christ and His Church.

School Auction and Social - March 25

The auction is a fun and exciting way to unite the parents, faculty, staff, families, church members, volunteers and community in one common cause: our great parish school. Items of value are donated from school families, church members, alumni, friends of Queen of Apostles and local businesses. Items are then offered at the auction for you to purchase.

We hear each year from people who want to help but are not sure how. It's easy! You may:

1. Purchase a ticket to attend the auction.
2. Donate an item of value for the auction. We need many items to make this event a success, and no item is too big or too small. All donations are greatly appreciated, are tax deductible, and now is an excellent time to get those end of the year tax donations checked off the list.
3. Purchase an auction raffle ticket for a chance to win cash, an Apple watch or other prizes.
4. Sponsor the auction with a cash donation (<https://queenofapostlesschool.org/payments/>).

Contact QueenofApostlesAuction@gmail.com for additional information and to donate an item to the auction.

Pastor's Letter

To Testify to the Truth

One year the moon was so beautiful in the sky. So much that men began to worship it more than the sun. The moon, with her beautiful light, her power over the tides and the music of human worship thought that the sun could take a break. She would take care of illuminating the earth, managing the tides and governing the calendar. And so it did.

The sun went on vacation and the moon took the care of the earth. Very soon the earth was wrapped in darkness. The temperatures dropped drastically and even the tides went crazy. Nobody blamed the moon nor missed the sun. Word of the issues arrived to the sun who asked the moon if there was a problem. The moon said that the weather was out of control but she was working to fix it. It was just a matter of time. So the sun stayed to the end of his vacation. When he came back, the earth had collapsed under the ice. He brought back warmth to the earth and light to the moon. And humanity celebrated that the moon was again pouring her light on them.

If we translate this allegory saying that the Sun is God and the moon is science, the story could have some insight and call us to wake up from the moon's illusion.

"Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mk 1:15). With this summons and the sign of the ashes on our foreheads we will begin the season of Lent this Wednesday. What does it mean to repent and to believe in the Gospel? To follow Jesus embracing wholeheartedly that He is "the light of the world". "Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (Jn 8:12). Are we walking in darkness or in light? Do we seek truth or are we content living in falsehood?

Our culture today, like the moon in the story has given up on the question of truth and good. Good would be what makes me feel well. There is no reference out of my conscience to enlighten me about what is good or evil. People ask themselves no more about light or darkness, because they have closed their eyes and pretend to be light for themselves. This way we are imprisoned in our conscience without any other light than our feelings.

Lent is therefore an invitation to open our eyes and seek the light, and maybe we will need some time to get our eyes adapted to it again. To open our hearts to the one who came to testify to the truth as Jesus told Pilate, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice" (Jn 18:37).



Rule of Life for the Month of February Confession

In Confession we are embraced by Jesus' mercy. In this sacrament we receive the forgiveness of our sins, and our communion with God and the Church is reestablished. Jesus heals the wounds of the heart, restores our spiritual health, and brings new life to our relations with others.

- ❖ **Step 1:** Make a thorough examination of conscience and go to confession.
- ❖ **Step 2:** Prayerful examination of conscience once a week.
- ❖ **Step 3:** Confession every three months.
- ❖ **Step 4:** Bedtime daily examination of conscience and monthly Confession

Other Resources: Fr. Alvaro Montero DCJM, [The Touch of Life](#). Get your copy at www.amazon.com or at the parish office.

*"Confession heals, confession justifies, confession grants pardon of sin,
all hope consists in confession; in confession there is a chance for mercy."
St. Isidore of Seville*

This Week In Our Parish

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 26:

School	9:00-10:15 am Religious Education
Hannan Hall	2:00-5:30 pm Ghana Group
Adoration Chapel	6:00-8:00 pm Prayer Group

Monday, February 27:

Parish Office	6:00-7:00 pm Fatima/Rome Pilgrimage Meeting
Cupertino Room	7:00-9:00 pm Hispanic Legion of Mary
Hannan Hall	7:00-9:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
Notre Dame Graduate School	7:30-9:00 pm RCIA in English

Tuesday, February 28:

Hannan Hall	10:00-11:30 am Bible Study
Hannan Hall	5:30-7:30 pm Mardi Gras Celebration
Parish Office	6:00-7:15 pm Bible Study

Wednesday, March 1:

Hannan Hall	7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Prayer Group
Notre Dame Graduate School	7:30-9:00 pm RCIA in Spanish

Thursday, March 2:

Parish Office	6:30-8:00 pm Legion of Mary
Church	7:30-8:30 pm Holy Hour
School	9:00-10:30 pm St. Joseph's Men Group

Friday, March 3:

Parish Office	9:00-11:00 am Car Raffle Processing
Adoration Chapel	11:00 am-12 noon Children's Adoration Hour
Adoration Chapel	3:00-4:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Hannan Hall	3:45-5:30 pm Nazareth
Notre Dame Graduate School	6:00-8:00 pm Emmaus
School	6:00-8:00 pm Open Gym
Hannan Hall	6:30-8:30 First Friday Fish Dinner with Fr. Imbarrato

Saturday, March 4:

Parish Office	1:00-3:30 pm Stephen Ministry
School	4:00-6:30 pm Spanish Prayer Group
Hannan Hall	5:30-9:00 pm Homeschoolers
School	7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Choir

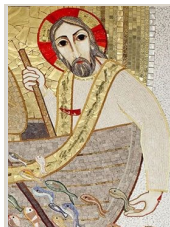
First Sunday of Lent - March 5:

Rule of Life Program

Vestibule	ACCA Food Collection
Hannan Hall	8:30 am-1:30 pm Sunday Social
School	9:00-10:15 am Religious Education
Hannan Hall	2:00-5:30 pm Ghana Group
Adoration Chapel	6:00-8:00 pm Prayer Group

Bulletin Deadline The deadline for submitting announcements for the **Mar. 5** bulletin is Monday, **Feb. 27** by 9 am. Email announcements to m.saunders@queenofapostles.org.

All Saints Car Raffle Thanks to all of you who sold car raffle tickets and returned the stubs and money! Special thanks to those who have picked up extra tickets to sell. Remember that you can drop your envelope with your raffle ticket stubs and corresponding check in the basket at Mass or bring it in to the parish office where you can pick up more tickets to sell. Questions? Contact Ann Croft at annmcraft@hotmail.com.



Vocations

“Thus should one regard us, as servants of Christ.” Are you being called to serve the Lord and others in the consecrated life or priesthood? Contact Fr. Juan at general@queenofapostles.org or Fr. J.D. Jaffe at j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-2514.

Are you being called to serve the Lord and others in the consecrated life or priesthood? Contact Fr. Juan at general@queenofapostles.org or Fr. J.D. Jaffe at j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-2514.

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time That by their example of seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, priests, deacons, sisters and brothers will win many souls to Christ, we pray to the Lord.

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**.

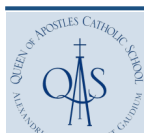
Second Collection Today's Second Collection is for the School Fund. Next week's Second Collection will be for the Black and Indian Missions.

Subscribe to Our Weekly Parish E-Newsletter To sign up please visit <https://queenofapostles.org/news/>

Walking Toward Eternity: Engaging the Struggles of Your Heart - An Eight-Part Bible Study Featuring Jeff and Emily Cavins

Just in time for Lent, *Walking Toward Eternity* is an inspiring series designed to help participants live their faith more fully. *Engaging the Struggles of Your Heart*, is a challenging study that can open our eyes to obstacles in our Christian walk such as greed, envy, fear and shame. Through prayer, reflection, guidance, and the aid of the Holy Spirit, we begin to engage these difficulties in a positive way as we continue toward our goal of union with Christ. Give up your Struggles for Lent. Classes begin **Mar. 7**. Visit QofAblestudy.com for registration information or pick up a flyer in the vestibule and register in person.

Instructional Aide Position Queen of Apostles School is looking for a positive, energetic, caring, and self-motivated individual to assist in the 1st and 2nd classrooms. The individual will also monitor students during recess and the after school program. The hours are 11:30 am to 4:45 pm, Monday through Friday. The position is open immediately. Please send resume to Kathy Littlefield, principal, at k.littlefield@queenofapostlesschool.org.



Queen of Apostles School Now Hiring Principal for 2017-18 School Year

Our parish thanks Kathy Littlefield for her many years of service as teacher and then as principal to our school. We now open a hiring process for principal for the 2017-18 year, and seek a candidate who will join our mission of helping students to grow in discipleship of Christ. A full job description may be found at www.queenofapostles.org.

The application process is conducted through the Office of Catholic Schools. To apply, visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/Catholic-Schools/Careers. Applications must be received by **Mar. 19, 2017**.

2017 Bishop's Lenten Appeal *Offering hands to*

serve and hearts to love This weekend every family in our parish will be asked to complete a Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA) pledge form at Mass. If you have already donated through the mail or online or are not able to participate, there will be a place to note that on the form. After reflecting upon the many blessings that God has given you, please prayerfully consider making a pledge of support to this appeal that funds many programs, offices and ministries that serve people in need and further Jesus' Mission in our diocese.

Mardi Gras: Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow ye shall fast!

This year we will prepare for Lent by having a celebration which is a parish family group effort. Your "ticket" is the food you sign-up for and bring, AND your time and effort towards the jobs which need to be done. Please go to the sign up link: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/70A0444A5AA238-eat, sign up, and put in your comments how many people you are bringing so that we can ensure that we have enough paper products.

Shrimp for Life! Great things are happening in the pro-life fight. Join us for First Friday Fish dinner March 3rd at Queen of Apostles, Hannan Hall 6:30 pm. Potluck. How many kinds of Bubba Gump Shrimp are there? Soup, salad and desserts needed. Father Stephen Imbarrato of Priests for Life is celebrating his 65th year. Please join us. RSVP to Larry Cirignano at (202) 306-6863 or larryvote@gmail.com.

40 Days for Life Join fellow prayer volunteers for one hour during the 40 Days for Life prayer vigil that begins on Ash Wednesday, **Mar. 1** and continues through Palm Sunday, **Apr. 9**, held at the US Supreme Court, 1 First St. NE, Washington, DC. Please contact Larry Cirignano for more information: larryvote@gmail.com or visit www.40DaysforLife.com.

Stations of the Cross Join us for Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 7:00 pm in the church.

Fast and Abstinence During Lent Everyone over 14 years of age is bound to observe abstinence (no meat). Abstinence is to be observed on all Fridays during Lent and Ash Wednesday. On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, everyone between the ages of 18 and 60 years of age is bound to observe the law of fast. On these two days only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs; but together they should not equal another full meal.

Women's Group In the spirit of Pope Francis, Lent is a time of renewal for every believer. In this spirit, Fr. O'Connor will conduct a "mini retreat" on Wednesday, **Mar. 8**, in Hannan Hall, after the 9 am Mass for members of the Women's Group. Members are encouraged to invite their spouse, a friend, or neighbor to share in this opportunity to focus our efforts on making this Lent more meaningful. Fr. O'Connor will guide us in our efforts to focus on and find the true meaning of Lent, with Lenten resolutions, and good confessions. Please join us.

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses this Week

Monday, February 27:

6:30 am +Mary Constantino
9:00 am +Lourdes Hidalgo

Tuesday, February 28:

6:30 am +Joseph Sullivan
9:00 am +Mrs. Jean Seitz

Ash Wednesday, March 1:

6:30 am (L) Mr. and Mrs. George Cook
9:00 am +Joseph Thach, Sr.
12 noon Souls in Purgatory
7:00 pm +Christina Lynem

Thursday, March 2:

6:30 am +Florencio León
9:00 am +Patricia Scheidemandel

Saint Katharine Drexel - Friday, March 3:

6:30 am +Teresita Ascaño
9:00 am (L) Milan Nguyen

Saint Casimir - Saturday, March 4:

8:00 am +Sister Margaret Spotti
5:00 pm +Donald Lee Allen
7:00 pm +Léonor Llanos de Lopez

First Sunday of Lent - March 5:

7:30 am +Gladys Castro
9:00 am +Dolores Perez
10:30 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 noon (L) Judelyn Trozado

Schedule for Ash Wednesday - March 1, 2017

Mass Times 6:30 and 9:00 am, 12 noon and 7:00 pm (bilingual)

Confession Times 7:00-7:30 am, 8:30-9:00 am, 11:30 am -12 noon, and 6:30-7:30 pm

Nourishing Our Souls With Holy Scripture

Readings for Next Week: First Sunday of Lent

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17
Rom 5:12-19 Mt 4:1-11



Please pray for the members of our parish who are ill

Daisy Atiyeh, Dick Owens, Miriam Farfan Christopher Said, Marta Fajardo, Linda Intihar, Melencio Morales, Reyes Duran, Esther Stanley, 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 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 Spracht, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlynn, Teresa Subalussy, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Donna Smith