

QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

The Baptism of the Lord - January 10, 2021



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 Jesus and Mary,

I wish you all a happy feast of the Baptism of the Lord! With this feast, we end the Christmas season, and we begin ordinary time. At Christmas, Jesus manifested His deep love for humanity that with great love He comes to save.

Today in the Gospel, we find John obeying the will of God by baptizing Jesus; with this sign comes the confirmation of Jesus as a beloved son, and with his baptism, he blesses the waters from which the new people of God will receive the grace of being children of God for the new baptism. This feast invites us to meditate on our Christian reality and our baptismal commitment; through this sacrament, we become children of God and heirs of the kingdom of heaven. It is a day to meditate on this grace; at the same time, let us remember the day of our baptism and pray for the priest or deacon who baptized us. This feast is to meditate on this and much more.

After celebrating Christmas and the end of the year, we have to return to the reality of our parish life. This New Year we have to propose goals and dreams that inspire us to continue walking. I know that many are still afraid by the pandemic's severity that is not over yet. However, we must not allow fear to stagnate us and separate us from the grace of God. Again, I want to invite you not to be overcome by fear. We must have confidence in the God who gives us life; for this, we have to feed ourselves with the bread of the body and blood of Jesus by attending Holy Mass. Do not be afraid to participate and maintain parish contact; our parish rigorously follows the protection and security protocols: wearing masks and disinfecting our hands at all times. I also invite you to attend confession; confession helps us to have the inner strength to move forward and maintain inner peace.

As priests and as staff, we are willing not to let fear take over the parish life. We must continue and we must do it for the love of the kingdom. We will not stop serving you in whatever is needed.

Also, I inform you that we have almost finished the work in our temple; therefore starting this Wednesday, January 13th, we will begin to expose Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament from 9:30 am to 7:00 pm in the church. I know that many were waiting for this moment!

I continue to invite those who are active in our ministries to participate in the parish formation that we will have on January 23rd. Father Joseph Bergida will speak to us about the importance of the liturgy and will explain the Mass step by step. Everything will be in person, and a virtual conference will not be held. If you wish to participate, contact your coordinators or the parish office.

Finally, I appreciate your commitment to our parish, your parish. Without your enthusiasm and your love for it, we could not walk. This year, I hope that the second year of the pandemic we do not allow ourselves to let our hope be taken away, but instead, unite us more and grow more in our faith. Remember that with God, we are invincible.

God Bless you.

Fr. Alex



† RELIGIOUS EDUCATION †

Religious Education Information

Wishing our Religious Education families, catechists, aides, and volunteers a Happy New Year!

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**.

Each Sunday before RE class, in-person participants are to perform a health screening for symptoms of COVID-19. Family members displaying any symptoms are not to attend RE class. To comply with safety protocols, class size is limited, 6' distance between families/students, masks/face shields are to be worn by everyone, hand sanitizer will be used upon entering the school building, students will report directly to class, only catechists, aides, and registration volunteers may enter the school, temperature checks will be taken, and disinfection will occur before and after classes. Students must bring the student text, his/her own pen/pencil, paper, folder, bottled water, hand sanitizer, etc. to class each week.

Please park close to the school and escort your child to the check-in where his/her temperature will be taken. Current Sunday Mass times are 8am, 10am, and 12noon in English and 1:30pm in Spanish and the parking lot may be busy. Please observe safety when entering and exiting the parking lot. Parents are to meet their students outside along the sidewalks by 10:15 a.m. and check-out their student.

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 Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm during Advent/Christmas *except for Dec 29, 2020*. RCIA-Spanish classes will continue to meet on Wednesdays, 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. 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

† PARISH LIFE †

Masses This Week

Baptism of The Lord - Sunday, January 10:

8:00 am +Melinda Paul
10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm +Ron Umbach
1:30 pm +Pablo Emilio Escobar Gaviria

Monday, January 11:

6:30 am +Dahae Lee
9:00 am +Elise Ryan

Tuesday, January 12:

6:30 am (L) Donna Ethelbert
9:00 am +Padraig Griffin

St. Hilary - Wednesday, January 13:

6:30 am (L) Jerry Crowley
9:00 am +Kathy Ippolito

Thursday, January 14:

6:30 am +Dorothy Mohn
9:00 am (L) Karen Norman and family

Friday, January 15:

6:30 am +Leo Weston
9:00 am +John Steve Catilo

Saturday, January 16:

8:00 am (L) Dennis Dowd Family
5:00 pm +Joshua Chedid
7:00 pm +Victoria Perea

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.

Life is VERY Good Evening of Prayer is scheduled for 7:30pm on **Thursday, January 28** at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More. This beautiful evening will include confessions, Eucharistic Adoration and procession led by Bishop Burbidge, beautiful music, and even a message from the Holy Father imparting his Apostolic Blessing upon all participants! The intended audience is teenagers, but entire families are welcome and will grow in their respect for life by participating in this prayerful experience. Participation is FREE and is limited to Catholic Diocese of Arlington families and youth. Please go to the Life is VERY Good webpage to reserve a spot!

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:



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Thank you for your support!



January 3 - The Baptism of the Lord

Today we celebrate the baptism of Christ in the Jordan, marking the end of the Christmas season. This is the second epiphany, or manifestation, of the Lord. The past, the present, and the future are made manifest in

this epiphany.

The most holy one placed Himself among us, the unclean and sinners. The Son of God freely humbled Himself at the hand of the Baptist. By His baptism in the Jordan, Christ manifests His humility and dedicates Himself to the redemption of man. He takes upon Himself the sins of the whole world and buries them in the waters of the Jordan.

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.



Parish Office Over the next couple of weeks, renovations will be made in the Parish Office, mainly at the front desk. During the process, things will operate a little differently—the location of the entrance and front desk, noise, etc. We ask for your patience and cooperation during this time. Thank you!



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day The Parish Office will be closed on **Monday, January 18** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. There will be only one Mass celebrated at 9 am.

Gospel Commentary for the Baptism of Our Lord: Baptized for Us

Fr. Joseph Rampino

This Sunday presents to us a very strange Gospel, that of Christ's Baptism in the Jordan. In order to understand what this episode and feast day really means for us, we must ask: why was Jesus Baptized?

First we have to understand what Baptism means for us. We know that when we are Baptized, we receive two primary graces. First, we are freed from our sins, the obstacle to our friendship with God, and second, we are joined to the body of Christ Himself. Being joined to Christ means the beginning of sanctifying grace in our souls, divine life itself flowing through us. We begin an exchange with the Lord Jesus at that moment, whereby He takes upon Himself everything that is ours, and in its place gives to us everything that is properly His. He chooses to bear our life along with us, and to make us, by adoption, everything that He is by nature. So then, we come to the Sacrament of Baptism marked and wounded by original sin, prisoners of the limits of our own nature, and we leave not only cleansed, but with a new identity as children of the Father, heirs of the Kingdom of Heaven, sharing in the divine life itself. It is the most important day in the life of any Christian soul, bar none.

Of course all of these things are Christ's gift to us. He is the one providing us with all the tremendous graces that fill our souls in this great Sacrament. If this is so, however, then how do we explain Jesus' Baptism in the Jordan? Even if we acknowledge that the Baptism of John is not a Christian Sacrament, we still know that it was intended as a confession and cleansing of sin. Jesus, of course, as God Himself in the flesh, does not and cannot sin, so He has nothing to wash away. Even John, in Matthew's Gospel, draws attention to this contradiction, saying "I need to be Baptized by you, and do you come to me?" So why, we ask again, does Jesus insist on being Baptized, and what does it mean?

The answer has to do with Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection. In Luke's Gospel, when talking about His coming suffering in Jerusalem, Christ says "I have a Baptism to be Baptized with, and how I am constrained until it is accomplished!" So, knowing that the Lord considers the Passion to be intimately connected to Baptism, we can start to understand. In the Passion, Jesus takes our sins on His shoulders and bears them to the Cross to destroy them there. In the Jordan River today, He ritually takes our sins on His shoulders, undergoing the cleansing that we need in our place, as though the sins were His own. When He comes up from the water, the Father and the Holy Spirit makes their presence known, the Father declaring "You are my beloved son. In you I am well pleased." So also, after His Passion and Death, Jesus rises again, vindicated by the Father as the victorious and beloved Son, and pours out the Holy Spirit over humanity.

In all of this we can say that Jesus undergoes Baptism in order to show us what it is He will do to save us, and to give meaning to our Baptism. Now, as Christians, when we are Baptized, we share in His Passion, Death, and Resurrection, and in this way, we are joined to Him. We should think today about the value of our own Baptism, and resolve never to lose those great gifts by sin, but rather to cultivate them through faith, hope, and charity, until the day we can share life perfectly with Christ in the house of Our Father.



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, María 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 Spracht, 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

† EN ESPAÑOL †

CARTA DEL PÁRROCO

Queridos hermanos en Jesús y María:

Les deseo a todos una feliz fiesta del bautismo del Señor, con esta fiesta finalizamos el tiempo de la navidad, y comenzamos al tiempo ordinario. En la navidad Jesús manifiesta su amor profundo por la humanidad que con gran amor viene a salvar.

Hoy en el evangelio encontramos a Juan obedeciendo la voluntad de Dios al bautizar a Jesús, con este signo surge la confirmación de Jesús como hijo amado, y con su bautizo bendice las aguas de las que el nuevo pueblo de Dios recibirá la gracia de ser hijo de Dios por el nuevo bautismo. Esta fiesta nos invita a meditar nuestra realidad cristiana y nuestro compromiso bautismal, por medio de este sacramento nos convertimos en hijos de Dios y en herederos del reino de los cielos, es un día para meditar en esta gracia; a la vez recordemos del día de nuestro bautismo y oremos también por el sacerdote o diacono que nos bautizó. Esta fiesta es para meditar en esto y mucho más.

Después haber celebrado la navidad y fin de año, tenemos que volver a la realidad de nuestra vida parroquial, este nuevo año tenemos que proponernos metas y sueños que nos inspiren a seguir caminando, sé que muchos están aún asustados por lo duro de la pandemia que aún no termina, pero no debemos permitir que el miedo nos estanque y nos aparte de la gracia de Dios, quiero invitarles a no dejarse vencer por el miedo, tenemos que tener confianza en el Dios que nos da la vida, para ello tenemos que alimentarnos con el pan del cuerpo y la sangre de Jesús, asistiendo a la santa misa, no tengan miedo a participar y a mantener el contacto parroquial, nuestra parroquia sigue rigurosamente los protocolos de protección y seguridad, usando la mascarilla y desinfectando nuestras manos en todo momento. Les invito también a la confesión frecuente, la confesión nos ayuda a tener fuerza interior para seguir adelante y mantener la paz interior.

Como sacerdotes y como staff estamos dispuestos a no dejar que el miedo destruya la vida parroquial, hay que seguir, debemos hacerlo por amor al reino, no pararemos de atenderles en lo que se necesite. Les comunico que ya hemos terminado casi en su totalidad los trabajos en nuestro templo, por tanto a partir del próximo miércoles 13 de enero comenzaremos nuevamente a exponer a Jesús Sacramentado de 9:30 a 7:00pm en el templo parroquial, sé que muchos estaban esperando este momento.

Sigo invitando a los que están activos en nuestros ministerios a que participen en la formación parroquial que tendremos el 23 de enero, el Padre Joseph Bergida nos hablara de la importancia de la liturgia y nos explicara la misa paso a paso; todo será en persona y no se realizara la conferencia virtual, si desean participar comuníquense con sus coordinadores o a la oficina parroquial.

Finalmente, agradezco su compromiso con nuestra parroquia, su parroquia, sin su entusiasmo y su amor por ella no podríamos caminar. Espero que este año, segundo de pandemia no nos dejemos robar la esperanza, sino más vior unirnos más y crecer más en nuestra fe. Recuerden que con Dios somos invencibles.

Que Dios les bendiga.

P. Alex



Misas esta semana

Domingo 10 de enero:

8:00 am +Melinda Paul
10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm +Ron Umbach
1:30 pm +Pablo Emilio Escobar Gaviria

Lunes 11 de enero:

6:30 am +Dahae Lee
9:00 am +Elise Ryan

Martes 12 de enero:

6:30 am (L) Donna Ethelbert
9:00 am +Padraig Griffin

Miércoles 13 de enero:

6:30 am (L) Jerry Crowley
9:00 am +Kathy Ippolito

Jueves 14 de enero:

6:30 am +Dorothy Mohn
9:00 am (L) Karen Norman and family

Viernes 15 de enero:

6:30 am +Leo Weston
9:00 am +John Steve Catilo

Sabado 16 de enero:

8:00 am (L) Dennis Dowd Family
5:00 pm +Joshua Chedid
7:00 pm +Victoria Perea

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.

La vida es MUY buena noche de oración

está programada para las 7:30 pm del **jueves 28 de enero** en la Catedral de Santo Tomás More. Esta velada incluirá confesiones, Adoración eucarística y procesión dirigidas por el obispo Burbidge, e incluso un mensaje del Santo Padre impartiendo su bendición apostólica a todos los participantes! El público previsto es adolescente, pero familias enteras son bienvenidas y crecerán en su respeto por la vida participando en esta experiencia de oración. La participación es GRATUITA y se limita a las familias de la Diócesis Católica de Arlington.

¿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!



10 de enero - el Bautismo del Señor

Hoy celebramos el bautismo de Cristo en el Jordán, marcando el final de la temporada navideña. Esta es la segunda epifanía, o manifestación, del Señor. El pasado, el presente y el futuro se manifiestan en esta epifanía.

El más santo se colocó entre nosotros, los inmundos y los pecadores. El Hijo de Dios se humilló libremente de la mano del Bautista. Mediante Su bautismo en el Jordán, Cristo manifiesta Su humildad y se dedica a la redención del hombre. Toma sobre Sí los pecados de todo el mundo y los entierra en las aguas del Jordán.

Nuevas pautas de registro de bautismo

Tenga en cuenta nuestras nuevas pautas de registro de bautismo: Para aquellos que buscan que sus hijos sean bautizados en nuestras fechas programadas durante todo el año, asegúrese de que todas las documentaciones se presenten antes del lunes antes del bautismo. No podremos aceptar la documentación presentada al final de la semana, ya que tenemos que preparar los certificados con antelación. Gracias por su cooperación.



Oficina Parroquial Durante las próximas dos semanas, se realizarán renovaciones en la Oficina Parroquial, principalmente en recepción. Durante el proceso, las cosas funcionarán un poco diferente: la ubicación de la entrada y la recepción, el ruido, etc. Pedimos su paciencia y cooperación durante este tiempo. ¡Gracias!



Día de Martin Luther King, Jr. La Oficina Parroquial permanecerá cerrada el **lunes 18 de enero** en cumplimiento del Día de Martin Luther King, Jr. Sólo habrá una misa celebrada a las 9 am.