# QUEENof APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 24, 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

#### **EUCHARISTIC 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.

#### PASTOR'S LETTER

#### Dear Parishioners:

The Lord's liturgy this Sunday is an invitation to follow Him and to proclaim His word with courage, a follow-up that must become an action and a practice for the lives of Christians in society and in the world. Right now, society thirsts for evangelizers, for men and women committed to the Gospel in a living way, and those heralds must be each and every one of us. It is common to see and hear conversations of all kinds where we protest about everything that is happening right now, but it gives the impression that nobody takes the initiative to be that reflection of Jesus for others. Today like Peter, James, and John, he calls us to follow Him and be fishermen of souls, hopefully, we will not become deaf to his call.

As I mentioned in the previous letter, next Friday is the Day of Prayer for Life. Since the March has been cancelled, I have decided that on Friday we have a day of prayer for respect for life. We will expose the most Holy Sacrament after the Mass at 9:00 am and will end at 7:00 pm. I invite you all to participate. In the same way, do not forget that every Wednesday the Lord is exposed all day.

I have received some comments about why we are not livestreaming all the Masses. Let me tell you that my wish is that all the Masses were livestreamed to give more options for parishioners who cannot come to the parish, but we do not have enough volunteers to help with the broadcasting. I ask you, please, if anyone wants to help us with the 9:00 am Mass and with some Masses on Sundays, I will appreciate it very much. We need more volunteers to help us evangelize through these means.

Within a few days you will receive via email and in the bulletin a flyer inviting you to return to Mass in person. Many express feeling afraid; Do not be afraid! The parish has followed very strictly the safety and protection protocols: disinfecting after each mass, correct and mandatory use of the mask, use of hand sanitizer, and social distancing. Thank God in this state they have not limited us with the Eucharistic celebration and that is a gift, so let us return little by little. In our Masses, there is still much space to come and pray. Remember that prayer makes us stronger.

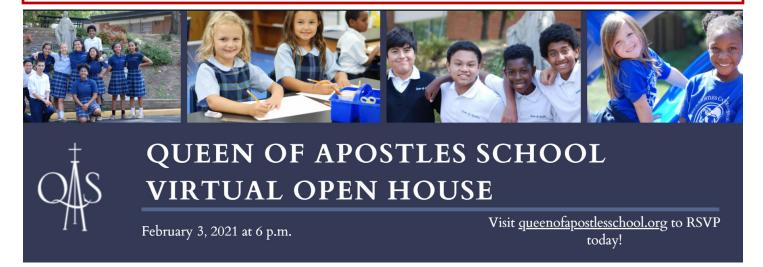
Among all the good news in the midst of all this, our staff does not stop working. Starting in February, we will launch a new website, which will be more attractive and easier to browse. It will be bilingual, and for those who do not have Facebook, the Mass will be broadcasted directly to the website. You will also be able to make your donations online and communicate with us more effectively. I am very happy about this because we will be able to serve you better.

Finally, our next projects supported by the Capital Campaign will begin soon. These include the installation of security cameras in the parking lot to protect the property, which has already begun. Then, the remodeling of the confessionals will begin as soon as the Liturgy Office of the diocese authorizes us. I ask those who have not yet made a pledge to the Capital Campaign to do so. I invite all of you to come together to rebuild and improve the house of God, and there is little left to do. If you haven't made your promise yet, call the office and do so.

I thank you very much for your commitment to the parish. Let's continue praying together and working together for the kingdom of God.

God bless you.

Fr. Alex





#### **FAITH FORMATION**



#### **Religious Education Information**

Confirmation students in grade 8-high school are to submit his/her Apostolic Service Hours log and 2-page reflection report by Jan 31, 2021. School students should check with Miss Hang about the deadline. The Confirmation Liturgy is scheduled for Monday, Feb 22, 2021 at 7pm in Queen of Apostles Church for desiring and prepared students attending the School or Religious Education Program. A mandatory rehearsal is scheduled for Friday, Feb 19, 2021 at 6:30pm in the church for students and sponsors. Everyone must wear face masks and observe physical distancing. More information and guidelines will be provided. Students and sponsors should expect to arrive at the church about an hour before the 7pm Liturgy.

The First Penance/First Holy Communion registration form and \$20 fee was due by Jan 17, 2021 from baptized School and RE students in grades 2 and higher. First Penance for School students is scheduled for Feb 25 at 10am. School families should confirm the information with the school teacher. First Penance for RE students is scheduled for Feb 27, 2021 at 9:30am in the church.

The Sacraments of Initiation form and \$50 fee from families with unbaptized children was due Jan 10, 2021. The priest signed and sealed Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility was due Jan 17, 2021. The Rite of Exorcism, Anointing, and Blessing will be held during the 12Noon Mass on Jan 24, 2021 at Queen of Apostles. Students and sponsors are to attend and sit in the front pews nearest the Presider's Chair. The Rite of Election will be held on Sunday, Feb 21, 2021 at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More. Only catechumens and sponsors may attend.

Sacraments packets are posted to the QofA website: https://queenofapostles.org/religious-education/

For on-line students using <u>MyCatholicFaithDelivered.com</u>, the Zoom schedule has been posted on MCFD/Group Threads.

St. Joseph, pray for us.

#### **Safety Guidelines**

We continue to be vigilant and intentional as we strive to stay healthy. Before coming to RE on Sunday mornings, please monitor for coronavirus and flu symptoms. If symptoms develop, please contact your primary Health Care Provider immediately, do not attend Religious Education class, and send a message to <a href="mailto:s.gray@queenofapostles.org">s.gray@queenofapostles.org</a>. We greatly value your partnership in taking extra precautions to keep Queen of Apostles parish, school, and Religious Education communities safe and healthy.

#### **RCIA**

The candidate registration form and fee was due Jan 19/20, 2021 (page 4 of the RCIA candidate packet). Late forms/fees may be dropped off at the parish office during the week. The Rite of Election (unbaptized/catechumens) will be held on Sunday, Feb 21, 2021 at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More. Only catechumens and sponsors may attend. The Rite of Continuing Conversion (baptized/candidates) will be held at Queen of Apostles on Sunday, Feb 28, 2021 during the 12noon and 1:30pm Masses. Generally, QofA activities will be canceled if FCPS cancels activities due to snow.

### Altar Servers—Serving our Lord in the Eucharist

Thank you to our altar servers/families who have returned to serve the sacred liturgy. If your son is willing to serve at Holy Mass on Sundays (8am, 10am, 12noon) and other Masses, 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. We need more boys to serve the 12noon Mass. Sts. John Berchmans and Tarcisius, pray for us.



#### 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 <u>queenofapostles.org</u> 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 <a href="mailto:general@queenofapostles.org">general@queenofapostles.org</a>

#### † PARISH LIFE †

#### Masses This Week

#### Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday, January 24:

8:00 am +Margarita Elizabeth Denison
10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm +Gavino & Demetria Monzon
1:30 pm +Deceased Members of the Daleney

Family

#### Conversion of St. Paul - Monday, January 25:

6:30 am +Leo Weston 9:00 am +Carmen Salud

Sts. Timothy and Titus - Tuesday, January 26:

6:30 am (L) Fr. Ignacio de Ribera, DCJM 9:00 am +Maria Antonia Martinez

St. Angela Merici - Wednesday, January 27:

6:30 am +Kathy Ippolito 9:00 am +Marilyn Jean Cole

St. Thomas Aquinas - Thursday, January 28:

6:30 am (L) Jim Bailey 9:00 am +Guadalupe Portillo

Friday, January 29:

6:30 am +Lawrence Walter Kenney

9:00 am +Julie Barreto

Saturday, January 30:

8:00 am (L) Dr. and Mrs. William J. McAuliffe

5:00 pm +Leo Weston

7:00 pm (L) Jovita Allcca de Alfaro y Dionisio

Alfaro

2021 Bishop's Lenten Appeal Begins! This

month the mailing for the 2021 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA) was sent to all registered diocesan households. The theme this year is "Encourage One Another by Word and Deed." After reflecting upon the blessings that God has given you, please prayerfully consider making a pledge to this important appeal that funds many programs and ministries that serve thousands of people in our diocese. Together, through the BLA, let us renew our personal commitment to furthering the Mission of our Lord Jesus throughout our diocese.

Life is VERY Good Evening of Prayer is

scheduled for 7:30pm on **Thursday**, **January 28** at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More. This evening will include confessions, Eucharistic Adoration and procession led by Bishop Burbidge, beautiful music, and a message from the Holy Father imparting his Apostolic Blessing upon participants! The intended audience is teenagers, but 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:

VA234

scan ME online

FAITH DIRECT\*

Thank you for your support!



#### January 28 - St. Thomas Aqui-

**11.3.5** St. Thomas ranks among the greatest writers and theologians of all time. His most important work, the *Summa Theologiae*, an explanation and summary of the entire body of Catholic teaching, has been standard for centu-

ries, even to our own day. Reputed as great already in life, he nevertheless remained modest, a perfect model of childlike simplicity and goodness. How he suffered with the poor and the needy was most inspiring. Whatever clothing or other items he could give away, he gladly did. After he died his lifelong companion and confessor testified, "I have always known him to be as innocent as a five-year-old child. Never did a carnal temptation soil his soul, never did he consent to a mortal sin." He died in 1274. He is the patron saint of schools and of sacred theology.

**Parish Office** If you have visited the Parish Office this past week, you would have noticed a significant change at the front desk! In order to enhance security for our staff, we have added a wall in the main lobby with a large window. We ask for your patience and cooperation while we complete this new project. Thank you!

March for Life After much consideration and discussion, the March for Life scheduled to take place in Washington D.C. on January 29 will take place virtually instead of inperson. While the March for Life Committee has set up a link to join online, it is also vital that we continue to pray for the

end of abortion and that our country will recognize the dignity of the unborn. For that reason, we will have all day Eucharistic Adoration on **Jan. 29** in the Church. Please consider visiting the Blessed Sacrament for an hour to pray for the lives of those most vulnerable.

Hold your phone's camera over the QR code to join the March for Life virtually!





#### Gospel Commentary for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time: Calling Before We Are Ready

#### Fr. Joseph Rampino

It is striking today to hear the call to the first Apostles, urging them to leave their nets behind for the service of the Gospel and of others, coming right after the call to repentance that opens the ministry of Jesus Christ. It would seem that in the mind of the Lord, repentance and vocation go together. Christ calls these men, soon to be His most trusted collaborators, in the same moment as he calls everyone to turn around and return to God. This follows a similar pattern elsewhere in the Gospels, according to which Christ gives people missions for the kingdom either in the same moment they first meet Him, or immediately after they come to believe, as in the case of St. Matthew's conversion, after which the new disciple calls together sinners of every kind to come and meet Jesus. It would seem that for Christ, the moments of repentance and sending are often closely associated.

Sometimes we think that mission, cooperating with Christ in His work for salvation, comes after repentance and purification are finished. Once we are free of sins and major failings, then we will be able to offer credible example, and will be able to preach the faith with our lives. While it is true that we ought to focus on our own faults before we focus on the faults of others, and that we ought to live our lives with credibility by practicing the things we preach to the best of our ability, it would seem from Christ's own actions that we are called to out and bring the Lord to others long before we are perfected, while we are still repenting. Though there are some tasks that require certain degrees of virtue ahead of time, our general call to witness begins from the first moment of our repentance, rather than after its end.

Repentance is in fact the work of a lifetime, a constant recognition that we are not complete or sufficient on our own, that we will always need a Savior. We repent at every moment, turning our minds back to the Lord and away from what tempts us, not with bitter hearts, but with the freedom that comes from knowing we do in fact have the Savior we need, and we are loved despite all of our many sins and faults. We need to confess our sins and receive mercy in that Sacrament, certainly, but this necessity does not make us hypocrites in the work of proclaiming the Lord Jesus. Hypocrites are those who do not even try to practice what they preach, holding others to a higher standard than they hold themselves. Those who struggle to live up to the message they carry though they fall along the way are simply called Christians.

We may consider the Apostles again. When Christ calls Simon, Andrew, James, and John in the Gospel today, beginning their mission as his close friends, and collaborators, they still have many failures ahead of them. Simon will, as we know, fail spectacularly, even denying Jesus three times during His Passion. James and John will ask to burn down towns that would not receive their Master, and then receive the very best places in His Kingdom. Jesus will heal and perfect them all in the end, but He did not wait for them to be perfect for asking them to fish for the souls of others.

He also calls us long before our repentance is finished to go out and fish for the souls of our neighbors. If we do so in humility, confessing our weakness, but asking the Lord's mercy, we can trust that He will bring us one day to perfection as well.



## 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. Those who were sent letters in November/December who have not yet pledged will be receiving a phone call from our Continuation Committee 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 Spraht, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlynn, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Russ and Jill Amerling, Richard Esterlund, Margaret Fiore, Michael Robertson, Jocelyn Reyes, Wilma Robles, Maryann McNutt, Yolanda Arzadon



#### CARTA DEL PÁRROCO

#### Queridos parroquianos:

La liturgia del Señor este domingo es una invitación a seguirle, y a proclamar con valentía su palabra, un seguimiento que tiene que convertirse en acción, en práctica, en vivencia cristiana en la sociedad y en el mundo. Ahora mismo la sociedad tiene sed de evangelizadores, de hombres y mujeres comprometidos de forma viva con el evangelio, y esos heraldos tenemos que ser todos y cada uno de nosotros. Es común ver y escuchar conversaciones de toda índole donde protestamos por todo lo que sucede ahora mismo, pero da la impresión que nadie toma la iniciativa de ser ese reflejo de Jesús para los demás, hoy igual que a Pedro a Santiago y Juan, nos llama a seguirle y ser también pescadores de almas, ojala, no nos hagamos sordos a su llamado.

Como mencione en la carta anterior el próximo viernes es el día de oración por la vida, y como no se podrá hacer ninguna marcha he decido que el viernes tengamos un día de oración por el respeto a la vida, expondremos el santísimo sacramento después de la misa de 9:00 y terminara a las 7:00pm, les invito a todos a participar. De igual manera no olviden que todos los miércoles les está expuesto todo el día.

He recibido algunos comentarios del porque no se transmiten todas las misas livestream, déjenme decirles que mi deseo es que se hagan para que puedan tener más opción de participar aquellos que no pueden venir a la parroquia, pero no tenemos suficientes voluntarios para transmitirla, les pido por favor si alguien desea ayudarnos con la misa de las 9:00am y con algunas misas los domingos lo agradeceré mucho, necesitamos más voluntarios que nos ayuden a evangelizar a través de estos medios.

Dentro de unos días recibirán vía correo electrónico y en el boletín, un flyer invitándoles a volver a las misas presenciales, muchos expresan sentir miedo, no tengan miedo, la parroquia ha seguido muy estrictamente los protocolos de seguridad y protección muy seriamente, desinfección después de cada misa, uso correcto y obligatorio de la mascarilla, uso de gel desinfectante y el distanciamiento social; gracias a Dios en este estado no nos han limitado la celebración eucarística y eso es un don, por tanto regresemos poco a poco, en nuestras misas aún hay mucho espacio para venir y orar. Recuerden que la oración nos hace fuertes.

Dentro de todas las buenas noticias en medio de todo esto, nuestro staff no para de trabajar, a partir de febrero lanzaremos una nueva página web, más atractiva y más fácil de encontrar el contenido, será bilingüe y para aquellos no tienen Facebook, la misa será transmitida directamente por la página, también podrán hacer sus donaciones en línea y comunicarse con nosotros más efectivamente, estoy muy contento con esto, porque les podremos servir mejor.

Finalmente, nuestros siguientes proyectos impulsados por la campaña capital iniciaran pronto, estos son: la instalación de cámaras de seguridad en el parqueo para proteger la propiedad ya se ha comenzado a hacer, luego la remodelación de los confesionarios iniciara en cuanto la oficina de liturgia de la diócesis nos autorice. Les pido por favor a aquellos que aún no han hecho una promesa (pledge) que lo hagan, les invito a todos a unirnos para juntos reconstruir y mejorar la casa de Dios, ya falta poco por hacer. Si aún no ha hecho su promesa, llame a la oficina y hágalo.

Les agradezco mucho su compromiso con la parroquia, sigamos juntos orando y trabajando juntos por el reino de Dios.

Que Dios les bendiga.

P. Alex





#### ESCUELA REINA DE LOS APÓSTOLES JORNADA DE PUERTAS ABIERTAS VIRTUAL

#### Misas esta semana

#### Domingo 24 de enero:

8:00 am +Margarita Elizabeth Denison
10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm +Gavino & Demetria Monzon

1:30 pm +Deceased Members of the Daleney

Family

#### Lunes 25 de enero:

6:30 am +Leo Weston 9:00 am +Carmen Salud

#### Martes 26 de enero:

6:30 am (L) Fr. Ignacio de Ribera, DCJM 9:00 am +Maria Antonia Martinez

#### Miércoles 27 de enero:

6:30 am +Kathy Ippolito 9:00 am +Marilyn Jean Cole

#### Jueves 28 de enero:

6:30 am (L) Jim Bailey 9:00 am +Guadalupe Portillo

#### Viernes 29 de enero:

6:30 am +Lawrence Walter Kenney

9:00 am +Julie Barreto

#### Sabado 30 de enero:

8:00 am (L) Dr. and Mrs. William J. McAuliffe

5:00 pm +Leo Weston

7:00 pm (L) Jovita Allcca de Alfaro y Dionisio

Alfaro

#### ¡Comienza La Petición Cuaresmal Del

Obispo De 2021! Este mes se envió la correspondencia sobre la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2021 a todas las familias inscritas en la Diócesis. El tema de este año es "Animémonos unos a otros de palabra y obra". Después de reflexionar sobre las bendiciones que Dios les ha dado, en espíritu de oración, consideren la posibilidad de hacer una promesa de contribución a esta importante petición que financia muchos programas y ministerios al servicio de miles de personas en nuestra Diócesis. Juntos, por medio de la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo, renovemos nuestro compromiso personal de fomentar la Misión de Nuestro Señor Jesús en toda nuestra Diócesis.

#### 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!



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

¡Gracias por su apoyo!



#### 28 de enero - Santo Tomás

Aquino Santo Tomás se encuentra entre los más grandes escritores y teólogos de todos los tiempos. Su obra más importante, la Summa Theologiae, una explicación y resumen de todo el cuerpo de la enseñanza católica, ha sido

estándar durante siglos, incluso hasta nuestros días. Reputado como grande ya en la vida, sin embargo se mantuvo modesto, un modelo perfecto de simplicidad infantil y bondad. La forma en que sufría con los pobres y los necesitados fue más inspiradora. Sea cual sea la ropa u otros artículos que pudiera regalar, lo hizo con mucho gusto. Después de su muerte, su compañero de toda la vida y confesor testificó: "Siempre he sabido que era tan inocente como un niño de cinco años. Nunca una tentación carnal ensució su alma, nunca consintió un pecado mortal." Murió en 1274. Es el santo patrón de las escuelas y de la teología sagrada.

Oficina Parroquial Si ha visitado la Oficina Parroquial esta última semana, habría notado un cambio significativo en la recepción! Con el fin de mejorar la seguridad de nuestro personal, hemos añadido una pared en el vestíbulo principal con una gran ventana. Pedimos su paciencia y cooperación mientras completamos este nuevo proyecto. ¡Gracias!

La Marcha por La Vida Después de mucha consideración y discusión, la Marcha por la Vida programada para tener lugar en Washington D.C. el 29 de enero tendrá lugar virtualmente en lugar de en persona. Si bien el Comité de Marcha por la Vida ha establecido un vínculo para unirse en línea, también es vital que sigamos orando por el fin del aborto y que nuestro país reconozca la dignidad del no nacido. Por eso, tendremos todo el día la Adoración Eucarística el 29 de enero en la Iglesia. Por favor considere visitar el Santísimo Sacramento durante una hora para orar por la vida de los más vulnerables.

Enfocar la cámara de su teléfono en este código QR para unirse a la Marcha virtualmente