

QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

The Epiphany of the Lord - January 3, 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 Parishioners,

Happy New Year!

We are starting a new stage in our lives, a new decade, and we ask God for His guidance and protection. This Sunday, we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. Today, Jesus manifests himself to all people as a sign that His incarnation is universal, for all men and women on earth. On this particular Sunday, we pray for the unity of nations and especially for unity in our country, so that there are no more divisions, and that instead, we create bonds of unity and peace.

As we all know, last year was difficult due to the challenges and drastic changes that humanity experienced and continues to experience; we saw things that perhaps we never imagined would happen. All this has hurt us a lot - we saw our churches closed, the suspension of sacramental life, our relationships were divided, and we are still struggling with all of this. As your parish pastor, my wish is that we do not allow the pandemic to make us lose hope, but instead that we are reborn from this crisis and that we unite more spiritually to continue our path of evangelization.

I have so many dreams and so many goals for our parish; projects and dreams that we cannot achieve without your participation. Among the big dreams are to return to normality both in the school and in the parish: to have our activities again, to share the faith and love of the Risen One as a community of faith, and to meet personally and have our celebrations together again. This year, I plan to reopen our Adoration chapel, a spiritual lung that gives our community life. I continually pray to God for this to happen soon.

I also want to encourage all the Lectors and all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to participate in the liturgical formation workshop that Father Joseph Bergida will give on January 23rd from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. It would be nice to start the year by forming and learning more about the ministry we do. Please contact your ministry leader to sign up.

Another great project is to continue with our parish building's renovations, both the temple and the parish center. We will continue to promote the capital campaign for these reasons. I consider it urgent to repair many areas of our parish because if we keep postponing this, it will be more expensive in the future. I will talk more in detail about this later on.

Finally, I inform you that our parish and office have some areas that need immediate attention, according to our most recent security report conducted by the diocese. We have been given less than two months to secure the parish office entrance. Within a few weeks, we will have to put a wall with glass windows in the reception area to provide a safer environment for all parish staff. I hope you understand that I have to fulfill what the diocese asks, and my priority is the safety of all.

I wish you all a Happy New Year 2021. I have you in my prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Alex



Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts (for the year 2021 from the USCCB)

On the **seventeenth** day of **February** will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season. On the **fourth** day of **April** you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ. [In those places where the Ascension is observed on Thursday: On the **thirteenth** day of **May** will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.] [In those places where the Ascension is transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter: On the **sixteenth** day of **May** will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.] On the **twenty-third** day of **May**, the feast of Pentecost. On the **sixth** day of **June**, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. On the **twenty-eighth** day of **November**, the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

† 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



QUEEN OF APOSTLES

Confirmation Retreat

For Grade 8 - High school Students!

JAN 16, 2021

Registration form can be found on the Parish Website
<https://queenofapostles.org/religious-education/>

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. 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

† PARISH LIFE †

Masses This Week

Epiphany of Our Lord - Sunday, January 3:

8:00 am +Francisco Antonio Otaizo, Sr.
10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm +George S. Davis
1:30 pm (L) Joaquin Archivaldo Guzman Loera

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - Monday, January 4:

6:30 am +Lester L. Hewitt, KM
9:00 am +Homer Carroll Hek, Jr.

St. John Neumann - Tuesday, January 5:

6:30 am +Joseph Barnoski, Sr.
9:00 am +Dorothy Norpel

St. Andre Bessette - Wednesday, January 6:

6:30 am +Stephanie Lowell
9:00 am +Dorothy Norpel

St. Raymond of Peñafort - Thursday, January 7:

6:30 am +Stephanie Lowell
9:00 am +Helen Kotch

Friday, January 8:

6:30 am +Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Pinzone
9:00 am +Rick Tedesco

Saturday, January 9:

8:00 am (L) Katie Koenig
5:00 pm +Cheryl Buntin
7:00 pm +Felicitas Mendez

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

FAITH DIRECT®
inspiring secure giving®

Thank you for your support!



January 3 - The Epiphany of the Lord

The Solemnity of the Epiphany is celebrated either on January 6 or, according to the decision of the episcopal conference, on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8. The young Messiah is revealed as the light of the nations. Yet, as the antiphon

for the Magnificat at Second Vespers reminds us, three mysteries are encompassed in this solemnity: the adoration of the Christ Child by the Magi, the Baptism of Christ and the wedding feast at Cana. Extra candles and/or lamps may be placed around the sanctuary and in other parts of the church to honor Christ revealed as the Light of the Gentiles (Ceremonial of Bishops). It is customary to replace the images of the shepherds at the crib with the three Magi and their gifts.

Thank you! Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who took time out of their week to make the Church beautiful for our Christmas celebrations. Special thank you to Chrissy and CJ Curtis, Richard and Nubia Hoey, Martin Gororo, Elvira Prince, Mrs. Mary O'Donohue, and Maria Fox.



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.

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!



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.



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 Epiphany of Our Lord: The Image of the Invisible God

Fr. Joseph Rampino

“We saw His star at its rising, and have come to do Him homage.” This brief line wonderfully captures the mystery of the feast of Epiphany which we celebrate today, meditating on the journey and visit of the Magi from the East. The Epiphany, which traditionally also celebrated the wedding feast at Cana and Christ’s own Baptism in the Jordan River, gives thanks to God for having shown Himself to us definitively in Christ, and draws us to respond in real acts of worship.

The star which guided the Magi, casting its light across the entire earth, speaks of this mystery of revelation. Why does this star, the revelation of Jesus Christ, matter so much? As John’s Gospel confirms, “no one has ever seen God.” This is the natural state of affairs in a fallen world. Normally, God remains unseen, speaking to humanity through the inner structure of nature and of the human heart, sometimes giving particular messages to prophets and mystics, but always remaining essentially hidden. While we might come to know about Him, about His goodness and providence, God remains beyond the reach of a relationship. Even the people Israel, to whom God spoke directly, who saw His miracles, who enjoyed His presence among them in the Temple, knew Him by a mysterious name that they honored with silence.

In Christ, something new happens. While John tells us that “no one has ever seen God,” he continues to proclaim that “the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, has made Him known.” Jesus, as the Word of the Father, the true Son of God, who is of one same nature with the Father, is really the “image of the invisible God.” As He tells the Apostles Phillip at the Last Supper, “he who has seen me has seen the Father.” In Jesus Christ, for the first time, we can look into the face of God Himself. This new and definitive revelation begins when the Christ child is made known by the light of the Christmas star, and continues through His whole life, as the miracles He works, the sublime teaching He gives, and the voice of the Father Himself all declare that He is the beloved Son of the Father. From the rising of that star, the world is changed, and it is now possible to meet God directly, even to enter into real friendship with Him.

The response of the Magi, to go out from their home in order to bow before this newly revealed king and offer to Him the most precious things they could, tells us the attitude of thankfulness and adoration that should come from seeing and understanding who Christ is. God did not have to come to us in Christ Jesus, showing Himself and inviting us to know Him. It is in a free act of love that He does this, and love calls for love in return. To love God back with gratitude, knowing that He has invited us to a joy we did not earn, and could never have earned, is close to the heart of an act of worship.

Just as the Magi offered the treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, acknowledging the child to be the true King, of divine origin, and destined to offer Himself in love for us, so we should offer the gold of charity, the frankincense of trusting belief in Him, and the myrrh of loving penance and reformation of our lives in His image. Doing so joins us to the joy of the grateful Magi, the joy of Christians throughout all history, and indeed, the joy of God Himself, who delights in drawing all people to Himself.



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 Spraht, 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

Feliz año nuevo queridos parroquianos

Estamos iniciando una nueva etapa en nuestra vida, una nueva década, pedimos a Dios su guía y su protección. Este domingo celebramos la Epifanía del Señor; hoy Jesús se manifiesta a todos los pueblos como signo de que su encarnación es universal, para todos los hombres y mujeres de la tierra, que en este domingo tan especial oremos por la unidad de las naciones y especialmente por la unidad en nuestro país, para que no haya más divisiones, sino, que creamos lazos de unidad y de paz.

Como todos sabemos el año pasado fue difícil, por los retos y los cambios drásticos que la humanidad vivió y aún sigue viviendo; vimos cosas que quizás nunca nos imaginamos que pasarían; todo esto nos ha herido mucho, vimos nuestras iglesias cerradas, y la suspensión de la vida sacramental, nuestras relaciones personales se vieron divididas y aún seguimos luchando con todo esto. Mi deseo como su párroco es que no permitamos que la pandemia nos haga perder la esperanza, sino más bien que renazcamos de esta crisis y que nos unamos más espiritualmente para seguir nuestro camino de evangelización.

Tengo tantos sueños y tantos propósitos para nuestra parroquia, proyectos y sueños que no los podremos lograr sin su participación. Entre los grandes sueños están, el volver a la normalidad tanto en la escuela como en la parroquia; volver a tener nuestras actividades, compartir la fe y el amor del resucitado como una comunidad de fe; conocerles personalmente y volver a tener nuestras celebraciones juntos. En este año estoy planeando, reabrir nuestra capilla de adoración permanente que es un pulmón espiritual que le da vida a nuestra comunidad, pido continuamente a Dios para que esto suceda pronto.

Quiero también animar a todos los lectores y ministros extraordinarios de la comunión para participen en el taller de formación litúrgica que impartirá el Padre Joseph Berguida el 23 de enero de 9:30 am a 2:00pm, por asistan creo que sería bonito iniciar formándonos y conociendo más sobre el ministerio que desempeñamos, por favor comuníquense con los encargados de los ministerios para inscribirse.

Otro gran proyecto es continuar con las reparaciones de nuestro edificio parroquial, tanto el templo como también el centro pastoral, para ello seguiremos impulsando la campaña capital, considero que es urgente reparar muchas áreas de nuestra parroquia, porque si dejamos todo esto por más tiempo será más caro. Ya les hablare de esto más adelante.

Finalmente, les comunico que la oficina de protección y seguridad de la diócesis nos ha dado menos de dos meses para que aseguremos la entrada de la oficina parroquial, dentro de unas semanas tendremos que poner una pared con ventanas de vidrio, con el objetivo de proteger las secretarías que están a la entrada. Espero que comprendan que tengo que cumplir lo que la diócesis pide para proteger a los empleados.

Les deseo a todos nuevamente un feliz año 2021, les tengo en mis oraciones.

P. Alex



Anuncio de la Pascua y fiestas movibles (para el año 2021)

El Miércoles de Ceniza comienzo de la Cuaresma, que celebraremos el día décimo séptimo de febrero. [En los lugares cuando la Ascensión se celebra el jueves: La Ascensión del Señor, que este año será celebrada el día décimo tercero de mayo.] [En los lugares cuando la Ascensión ha trasladado al domingo VII de Pascua: La Ascensión del Señor, que este año será celebrada el día décimo sexto de mayo.] El domingo de Pentecostés, que este año celebraremos el día vigésimo tercero de mayo. El primer domingo de Adviento, que celebraremos el día vigésimo octavo de noviembre.

También en las fiestas de la santísima Virgen María, Madre de Dios, de los apóstoles, de los santos y en la conmemoración de todos los fieles difuntos, la Iglesia, peregrina en la tierra, proclama la Pascua de su Señor. A él, el Cristo glorioso, el que era, el que es y el que vendrá, al que es Señor del tiempo y de la historia, todo honor y toda gloria por los siglos de los siglos. R. Amén.

Misas esta semana

Domingo 27 de enero:

8:00 am +Francisco Antonio Otaizo, Sr.
10:00 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm +George S. Davis
1:30 pm (L) Joaquin Archivaldo Guzman Loera

Lunes 4 de enero:

6:30 am +Lester L. Hewitt, KM
9:00 am +Homer Carroll Hek, Jr.

Martes 5 de enero:

6:30 am +Joseph Barnoski, Sr.
9:00 am +Dorothy Norpel

Miércoles 6 de enero:

6:30 am +Stephanie Lowell
9:00 am +Dorothy Norpel

Jueves 7 de enero:

6:30 am +Stephanie Lowell
9:00 am +Helen Kotch

Viernes 8 de enero:

6:30 am +Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Pinzone
9:00 am +Rick Tedesco

Sabado 9 de enero:

8:00 am (L) Katie Koenig
5:00 pm +Cheryl Buntin
7:00 pm +Felicitas Mendez

¿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!



FAITH DIRECT®
inspiring secure giving®

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

¡Gracias por su apoyo!



3 de enero - La Fiesta de la Epifanía

La solemnidad de la Epifanía se celebra el 6 de enero o, según la decisión de la conferencia episcopal, el domingo comprendido entre el 2 de enero y el 8 de enero. El joven Mesías se revela como la luz de las naciones. Sin embargo, como nos recuerda el antífona del Magnificat en las Segundas Vísperas, tres misterios están englobados en esta solemnidad: la adoración del Cristo Niño por los Reyes Magos, el Bautismo de Cristo y la fiesta de bodas en Caná. Se pueden colocar velas y/o lámparas adicionales alrededor del santuario y en otras partes de la iglesia para honrar a Cristo revelado como la Luz de los Gentiles (Ceremonial de los Obispos). Es costumbre reemplazar las imágenes de los pastores en la cuna con los tres Reyes Magos y sus dones.

¡Gracias! Gracias a nuestros maravillosos voluntarios que se tomaron el tiempo de su semana para hacer la Iglesia hermosa para nuestras celebraciones de Navidad. Gracias especialmente a Chrissy y CJ Curtis, Richard y Nubia Hoey, Martin Gororo, Elvira Prince, la Sra. Mary O'Donohue y Maria Fox.



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.

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!



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.

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.

