

QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 31, 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 Christ Jesus,

Grace and peace to all. I hope you are well and that you continue working for the construction of the kingdom of God. Thank God we have already finished the first month of the year 2021—we are hoping that everything will gradually return to normal soon. I continue to ask God that those whom I have not had the pleasure of meeting return soon, and we begin to defeat the pandemic of fear that does not allow us to meet as always. In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus goes to the synagogue to pray and teach, to manifest His divine authority, and to show us that He has come to free us from the attacks and possessions of evil. It is He, who with His infinite power, walks with us and protects us. He encourages us to be confident, not to be dominated by evil. I think that many situations that we experience today are very similar to those that Jesus faced; evil continues to manifest itself in fear, division, and in the double standard of the world. However, there is no need to be afraid because His authority and His love are still current and He will always conquer evil.

We are almost on the verge of starting Lent; in just two weeks, we will celebrate Ash Wednesday, and we are already preparing for it. Please help me prepare the ashes that we will impose on our heads. I know that palms from previous years have always been used to prepare the ashes. If you have blessed palms from previous years, I ask you to bring them to the office this or next week before Lent so we can begin to prepare the ashes. I will inform you later about the activities during this particular time.

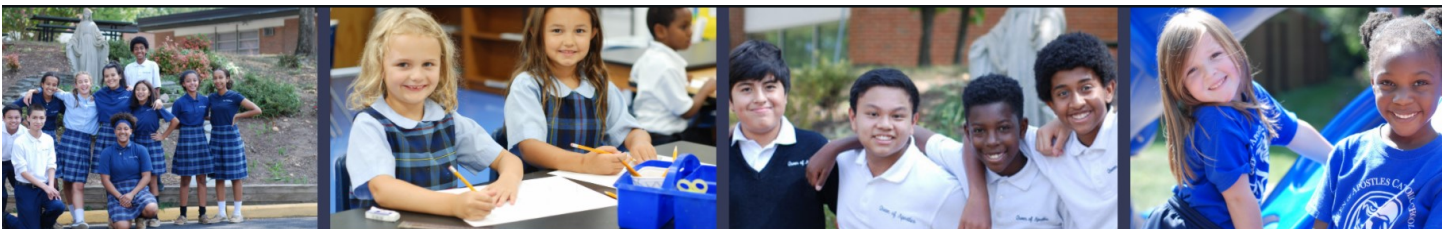
As most know, each year before Lent, the Bishop's Lenten Appeal begins. Perhaps, some have already received information in the mail. If you have not received it yet, the diocese will send the information and the envelopes in the mail so that you can make your donations. The Bishop's Lenten Appeal is the primary means of support for many ministries, programs, services, and good works of our faith community throughout the diocese. Supporting the Appeal helps the less fortunate among us, offers spiritual and physical comfort and counseling to those in crisis, and inspires children, young adults, and families to embrace and nurture their Catholic faith. It is a sacrifice that we all make to support this initiative of our bishop. I encourage you to help me reach the goal that has been assigned to us this year.

I also want to invite you to participate in our parish ministries, especially in the lectors' ministry. As you have noticed, almost always we have the same lectors every Sunday. I appreciate their availability and commitment to proclaim the Word every Sunday, but I would like others to commit to helping in this ministry. I invite you to take it to prayer and ask yourself if God is calling you to serve in this ministry. Similarly, the Ushers' ministry needs more hands to exercise their mission, and I hope that before Easter, we can create a welcoming ministry where young adults can also participate. We have much to do, and I hope the Lord moves hearts to commit to working in His vineyard.

Let's keep praying and working to make the kingdom of God among us more prominent and more prosperous.

God bless you,

Fr. Alex



QUEEN OF APOSTLES SCHOOL VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

February 3, 2021 at 6 p.m.

Visit queenofapostlesschool.org to RSVP
today!



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 [MyCatholicFaithDelivered.com](https://www.MyCatholicFaithDelivered.com), 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 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.

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 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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday, January 31:

8:00 am	+Leonor Barrera
10:00 am	Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm	+Alice McGann
1:30 pm	+Lisandro Alvarado Tevaláan & Macaria Alvarez Marroquin

Monday, February 1:

6:30 am	+Frances Griffith
9:00 am	+Fr. Michael Dobbins

Presentation of the Lord - Tuesday, February 2:

6:30 am	+Leo Weston
9:00 am	(L) Adlean V. Nolan

St. Blaise - Wednesday, February 3:

6:30 am	+Patricia Severin
9:00 am	+Dorothy Mohn

Thursday, February 4:

6:30 am	+Teresa Walker
9:00 am	+Kathy Ippolito

St. Agatha - Friday, February 5:

6:30 am	(L) Marie Fadus
9:00 am	+Thomas Benson

Saturday, February 6:

8:00 am	(L) Barbara Dannaher
5:00 pm	+Dorothy Mohn
7:00 pm	+Margarita Moreno

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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FAITH DIRECT®
inspiring secure giving®

Thank you for your support!

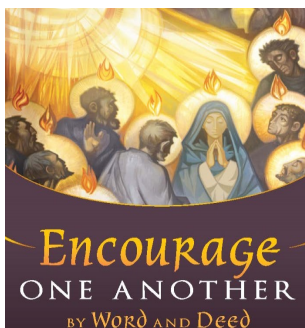


February 2 - Presentation of the Lord

The Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord 40 days after the birth of Jesus. Before 1969, the feast was known as the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or Candlemas. It was celebrated in the earliest times in the Church in Jerusalem and from there the observance spread throughout the Christian world. According to the law of Moses, a woman was ritually unclean for 40 days after childbirth. Therefore, Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the Temple to present him to the Lord and offer sacrifice for purification. "... just as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord,' and to offer the sacrifice of 'a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons...'" (Luke 2:23-24)

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 NEXT weekend 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.



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!

40 Cans for 40 Days Challenge Returns!

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus, Pope John Paul II Council 4522 in cooperation with Queen of Apostles Catholic School. Attention school students! Each school day bring ONE can of food to school, then take it with you to morning prayers in the gymnasium and place it in your class box. You can win "Dress Down Day" OR a Pizza Lunch! The challenge starts **Wednesday, February 17th** and ends **Holy Thursday, April 1st**.



Become a Knight! We Catholics are called to continual conversion in our Catholic Faith, our Christian beliefs and life, and our support and commitment to our Holy Father, our Bishops and Priests. The Knights of Columbus'

founder, the Blessed Fr. McGivney, summed up this calling in his vision, which was to: 1) Change a man's life; 2) Deepen and enrich his faith; 3) Strengthen his family and 4) Build better lives for those who so desperately need help. The Knights of Queen of Apostles parish's Pope John Paul II Council 4522 strive to live Fr. McGivney's vision each day. Please visit our table during after masses this weekend and join the Knights today...for FREE!

Gospel Commentary for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Teaching With Authority

Fr. Joseph Rampino

“He taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.” This description of Jesus’ teaching today in the Gospel may be a strange one for us to hear. What does it mean for Christ to teach with authority, and why does that astonish the crowds listening to Him as He preaches? What is the difference between the Lord and the scribes and elders that so captivates the people of Capernaum this Sunday? The short answer is that while the scribes would have taught primarily by interpretation, explaining different passages of the Torah, or even famous and accepted opinions on passages of the Torah, Christ taught from His own soul, according to His relationship with the Father. He, like Moses, spoke from His conversations with the God of Israel, rather than on another text.

While in our world, it is common for people to give their own opinions on religious matters, to make decisions and speak to others based on the results of their own personal thinking, this would have been absolutely unacceptable in the ancient world. The only way one was permitted to speak of or teach about God was by permission from God Himself, demonstrated through miracles, or by offering clarity on the already accepted revelation of God. Moses could be the lawgiver of Israel because God spoke to Him directly, and confirmed everything by signs and wonders. The scribes and elders could teach the law of Moses, but they could never give the law as Moses had done. Thus when Christ teaches on His own authority, claiming to speak the word of God to the crowds, it is, at the very least, shocking, or, at the worst, blasphemous and offensive to His listeners. By casting out demons, not only does He free people enslaved to evil, but He demonstrates who He is, that He really does come from the Father, and He is not sent by the evil one as a fraud.

Christ teaches as He does because He is the second person of the Blessed Trinity, the Eternal Word of the Father, and the perfect expression of everything that the Father is. He can teach as He does because He is Truth itself. He has authority to say how things really are because He is the one through whom each and every one of them was made. Thus, everything He tells us is not only true, but the very source of truth, and every teaching of His that comes down to us through the Church is more reliable than the sun or the seasons.

So how do we respond to Christ’s teaching? Do we venerate what He tells us? Do we trust it with our whole hearts? Are we glad to have heard it, and proud to pass it on to others? Do we let Christ’s truth correct us? Do we ask Him to form us according to the way in which He first desired to make us? Do we ask Him to cast the demons out of our lives, along with all evil, anything that might keep us from fully accepting truth’s teaching? If we open our souls in humility to the true authority of Christ, we have nothing to fear. His only desire is our good, and all we will ever lose is the security of our pride. This week, especially as Lent draws near, we should offer our hearts in humility before Christ Jesus once again, asking that our hearts be converted to the vision of the one who sees all, and who alone loves us perfectly.



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 Sprah, 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 hermanos y hermanas en Cristo Jesús:

Gracia y paz para todos. Espero que se encuentren bien y que sigan trabajando por la construcción del reino de Dios. Gracias a Dios ya hemos finalizado el primer mes del año 2021 con la esperanza que todo comience poco a poco a volver a la normalidad, sigo pidiendo a Dios que aquellos a los cuales no he tenido el gusto de conocer regresen poco a poco y comencemos a vencer la pandemia del miedo que no nos permite volver a reunirnos. En el evangelio de este domingo Jesús va a la sinagoga para orar y enseñar, para manifestar su divina autoridad y mostrarnos que ha venido para liberarnos de los ataques y posesiones del mal. Es Él, que con su poder infinito camina con nosotros y nos protege. Nos anima a tener confianza, a no dejarnos dominar por el mal. Pienso que muchas situaciones que vivimos hoy son muy similares a las que Jesús enfrentó; el mal se sigue manifestando en el miedo, en la división, en la doble moral que el mundo, pero no hay que tener miedo porque su autoridad y su amor aún son actuales y Él siempre vencerá el mal.

Estamos casi a las puertas de iniciar la cuaresma, en tan solo dos semanas celebraremos el miércoles de ceniza, y para ello ya nos estamos preparando; quiero pedirles que me ayuden a preparar la ceniza que impondremos en nuestras cabezas, sé que en años anteriores ustedes traían las palmas para preparar las cenizas, les pido por favor, si tienen palmas bendecidas en años anteriores a que las traigan a la oficina en estas semanas previas a la cuaresma, ya les informare más adelante sobre las actividades este tiempo especial.

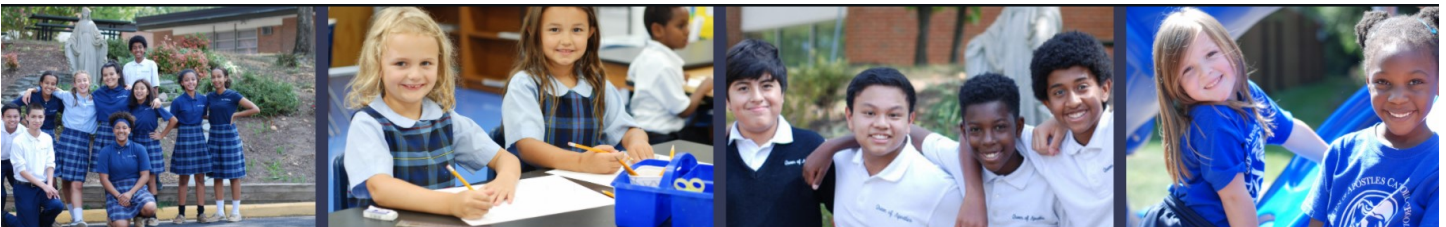
Como la mayoría sabe que cada año previo a la cuaresma se da inicio a la Campaña Cuaresmal del Obispo (Bishop Lenten Appeal) quizá algunos ya han recibido información en el correo, si no la han recibido pronto la diócesis les enviara la información y los sobres para hacer las donaciones. La Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo es el principal medio de apoyo para muchos ministerios, programas, servicios y buenas obras de nuestra comunidad de fe en toda la Diócesis. El apoyo a la Petición ayuda a los menos afortunados entre nosotros, ofrece consuelo espiritual y físico y asesoramiento a las personas en situación de crisis e inspira a los niños, a los adultos jóvenes y a las familias a abrazar y a nutrir su fe católica. Es un sacrificio que todos hacemos para apoyar esta iniciativa de nuestro obispo, les animo a que juntos alcancemos la meta que se nos ha asignado este año.

También quiero invitarles a participar en nuestros ministerios, en especial del ministerio de lectores, como se habrán dado cuenta casi siempre son los mismos lectores cada domingo, (agradezco la disponibilidad y el compromiso de todos ellos para proclamar la palabra cada domingo), pero me gustaría que otros también se comprometieran a ayudar en este ministerio, les invito a que lo lleven a la oración y se pregunten si Dios les está llamando a servir en este ministerio. De igual forma el ministerio de los Ujieres necesita más manos para ejercer más su misión, espero que para antes de la pascua, podamos crear el ministerio de bienvenida donde también los jóvenes adultos puedan participar, tenemos mucho por hacer, espero que el Señor mueva corazones para comprometerse a trabajar en su viña.

Sigamos orando y trabajando por hacer más grande y más rico el reino de Dios entre nosotros.

Que Dios les bendiga

P. Alex



ESCUELA REINA DE LOS APÓSTOLES JORNADA DE PUERTAS ABIERTAS VIRTUAL

3 de Febrero de 2021 a las 6 p.m.

¡Visite queenofapostleschool.org para confirmar su asistencia!

Misas esta semana

Domingo 31 de enero:

8:00 am	+Leonor Barrera
10:00 am	Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm	+Alice McGann
1:30 pm	+Lisandro Alvarado Tevaláan & Macaria Alvarez Marroquin

Lunes 1 de febrero:

6:30 am	+Frances Griffith
9:00 am	+Fr. Michael Dobbins

Martes 2 de febrero:

6:30 am	+Leo Weston
9:00 am	(L) Adlean V. Nolan

Miércoles 3 de febrero:

6:30 am	+Patricia Severin
9:00 am	+Dorothy Mohn

Jueves 4 de febrero:

6:30 am	+Teresa Walker
9:00 am	+Kathy Ippolito

Viernes 5 de febrero:

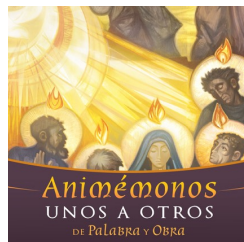
6:30 am	(L) Marie Fadus
9:00 am	+Thomas Benson

Sabado 6 de febrero:

8:00 am	(L) Barbara Dannaher
5:00 pm	+Dorothy Mohn
7:00 pm	+Margarita Moreno

¡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 el próximo fin de semana 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.



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!

¿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!



2 de febrero - La Presentación del Señor

La Iglesia celebra la fiesta de la Presentación del Señor 40 días después del nacimiento de Jesús. Antes de 1969, la fiesta era conocida como la Purificación de la Santísima Virgen María, o Candelaria. Se celebró en los primeros tiempos de la Iglesia en Jerusalén y desde allí la observancia se extendió por todo el mundo cristiano. Según la ley de Moisés, una mujer estaba ritualmente inmunda durante 40 días después del parto. Por lo tanto, María y José llevaron a Jesús al Templo para presentarlo al Señor y ofrecer sacrificio para la purificación. "... así como está escrito en la ley del Señor, 'Todo varón que abra el vientre será consagrado al Señor', y para ofrecer el sacrificio de 'un par de tórtolas o dos palomas jóvenes...'" (Lucas 2:23-24)

La Fiesta de la Presentación del Señor Habrá una misa en español a las 7 pm del **martes 2 de febrero** para celebrar la fiesta de la Presentación del Señor. ¡Esperamos que pueda unirse a nosotros!

40 latas para el desafío de 40 días Patrocinado por Caballeros de Colón, el Consejo 4522 del Papa Juan Pablo II en cooperación con la Escuela Católica Reina de los Apóstoles. ¡Atención a los estudiantes de la escuela! Cada día escolar lleva UNA lata de comida a la escuela, luego llévala contigo a las oraciones de la mañana en el gimnasio y colócala en tu caja de clases. Usted puede ganar "Dress Down Day" O un almuerzo de pizza! El desafío comienza el Miércoles de Ceniza, **17 de febrero** y termina el Jueves Santo, **1 de abril**.

¡Conviértete en Caballero de Colón! El Consejo 4522 de la parroquia de los Caballeros de la Reina de los Apóstoles se esfuerza por vivir la visión del P. McGivney de 1) Cambiar la vida de un hombre; 2) Profundizar y enriquecer su fe; 3) Fortalecer a su familia y 4) Construir mejores vidas para aquellos que tan desesperadamente necesitan ayuda cada día. ¡Por favor visite la mesa de Caballeros de Colón este fin de semana para obtener más información sobre cómo convertirse en un Caballero!