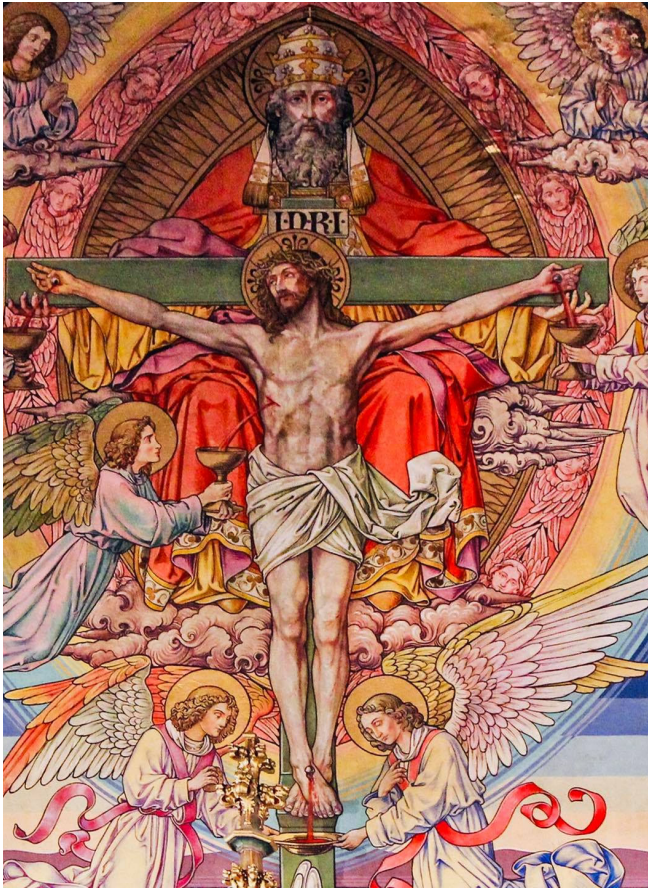


QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 19, 2020



CLERGY

Fr. Alexander Diaz, Pastor
Fr. Joseph Rampino, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Richard C. Caporiccio

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 8:00 am, 7:00 pm (*Spanish*)
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10 am, 12 Noon
2:00 pm GCC Mass
Monday-Saturday: 8:00 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



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,
School 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



Queen of Apostles Vision Statement

To be a family of families committed to growing in discipleship of Christ and eager to invite others to join our family.

Joining Our Parish Family

Welcome to Queen of Apostles! We warmly invite you to join our parish family. So that you might receive all of our parish communications, and so that our clergy and staff may respond appropriately to your various sacramental needs, we encourage you to register at Queen of Apostles through the Parish Office. Parish registration forms are available in the Church vestibule and at the Parish Office, located at 4329 Sano Street (next to the church). Please notify the Parish Office of any family status changes or if you have moved outside the parish by calling (703) 354-8711 #10, or e-mailing general@queenofapostles.org

Mary, Queen of Apostles, Pray for us!



PASTOR INSTALLATION MASS

FR. ALEXANDER DIAZ

MONDAY JULY 27, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.



Fr. Alexander Diaz will be installed as **17th Pastor** of Queen of Apostles on **Monday, July 27, 2020** at 7:00pm with Most. Reverend Michael F. Burbidge as presider. We will continue to observe physical distancing protocols, therefore, we will have limited seating in the church for this celebration. However, the Mass will be livestreamed along with limited seating in Hannan Hall. Sign up on our website or see the parish email for the link.

Pastor's Letter

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Gospel this week tells us about the parable of the Sower. Jesus with profound but straightforward language invites us to examine ourselves deeply and personally about how we are receiving the Gospel message in our lives, a task that is sometimes difficult. However, with His help, we can accomplish it. I want to emphasize that this pandemic time is an excellent opportunity to meditate and pray, particularly with this parable. These are hard times, where we feel that God is gone and has abandoned us, but the truth is that He is still here among us, and His seed must bear fruit in our lives. I pray so that all this will end soon, and that we can reunite as a family again. I know that many of you want to return to celebrating Holy Mass at regular times. Father Rampino and I also wish it, but for our safety and the safety of all of you, it is essential to take one step at a time.



Meanwhile, for this reason, I have decided to add a third mass on Sundays at 10:00 AM, starting July 19th so you will have more opportunities to participate, and practice a better social distancing as the diocese requires. For everyone's safety, we have hired a cleaning company that will oversee the disinfecting and cleaning of the church and the bathrooms after the celebration of each mass.

Also, I ask that you please continue to consider the following:

- 1- Everyone should wear masks as prevention and maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet; a family can stay together.
- 2- Our bishop still maintains the dispensation from Sunday Mass and holy days of obligation. In the same way, those over 65 and those who have health problems are encouraged to stay home.

On another note, next Monday, July 27th, our Bishop Michael Burbidge will visit us to officially install me as your pastor. It will be a solemn celebration. This week, we will provide more information on how to participate in the mass. I would have loved to have you all here, but unfortunately, it is impossible due to the current situation. However, the mass will be Livestreamed; we will also have a big screen in Hannan Hall for those who would like to follow the mass on church grounds.

Lastly, I am very grateful for your kind words of welcome, and your continued collaboration with our parish, therefore in this letter, I send you an update on our finances. *(continued on next page)*

Stewardship and Financial Update

A summary letter of the U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship highlights that each one of us has received a gift and we are to use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace. The letter goes on to state that as Christian stewards we must receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

As a result of the prayers and actions of many good Christian stewards here at Queen of Apostles (QofA), our parish seems to have made it through the worst period brought on by COVID-19. In the simplest terms, many of our parishioners here placed God's priorities before their own, and generously offered their "first fruits" of time, talent, and treasury to the Lord in gratitude for His many blessings and to further our apostolic mission during this very difficult time.

One question I have been asked by a few parishioners since my arrival here on June 25th is about my concern with the financial situation here at QofA. Let me be succinct: we are fine at the moment. This is the result of many factors.

Since you will always find me both transparent and clear about our financial situation, I wish to highlight the reasons why we have come through this unprecedented period both in the black and poised to move forward:

- **The QofA Emergency Fund:** Under the leadership of Father Juan, my predecessor, we set-up an emergency fund that would provide additional resources for both the poor and the church facilities. Almost \$80,000 was raised. The generosity of the QofA parishioners in this effort will be rewarded beyond this life.
- **Volunteers:** An incredible amount of time and effort has been donated by talented craftsman and laborers on our Adoration Chapel, grounds, buildings, and throughout our physical plant. QofA was able to reduce our expenses by tens of thousands of dollars because both labor and material were provided by our parishioners. Again, Our Father, who sees all what they quietly did for our parish, will reward them.
- **Paycheck Protection Plan (PPP):** Under the leadership of Father Juan and guidance from the Diocese, we applied and received a \$313,000 PPP loan. Our goal is to use all these dollars to pay church and school staff salaries, and utilities. If successful, this loan will be converted to a grant.
- **Faith Direct:** Since mid-March, the number of parishioners using Faith Direct has increased by 45%. The willingness of our parishioners to convert from paper offertory envelopes to Faith Direct's electronic service kept us from suffering a financial catastrophe since there were no in-person Masses for almost 12 weeks. If you have not yet gone online to utilize Faith Direct, I ask you to consider doing so at <https://membership.faithdirect.net/>

Going forward, there will be a brief financial update in all of my weekly letters to you. These updates will cover other items in the upcoming weeks such as the status of our school and the Capital Campaign. On June 30th, we completed the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year. Once the audit is complete and the books are closed out, we will publish and deliver to you a full financial report.

In closing, I am very pleased to report that under Fr. Juan and the Disciples, and as a result of the above-noted activities, the QofA Church outperformed the FY 2019-2020 budget, and it appears the QofA School will be very close to meeting its budget! I am so impressed with the parishioners here at QofA. Without a doubt, you exemplify the good stewards described in the U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship. I am so blessed to be here.

More to come in the future! You are always in my prayers, and may the Lord bless you always.

Fr. Alexander Diaz



This Week In Our Parish

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 19:

8:00 am	Mass
10:00 am	Mass
12:00pm	Mass
2:00 pm	GCC Mass

St. Apollinaris - Monday, July 20:

8:00 am	Mass
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St. Lawrence of Brindisi - Tuesday, July 21:

8:00 am	Mass
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St. Mary Magdalene - Wednesday, July 22:

8:00 am	Mass
8:30 - 9am	Confession
8:30am-8pm	Eucharistic Adoration

St. Bridget of Sweden - Thursday, July 23:

8:00 am	Mass
7:00 pm	Confession
7:00-8pm	Holy Hour

St. Charbel - Friday, July 24:

8:00 am	Mass
6:30 pm	Confession

St. James the Apostle - Saturday, July 25:

8:00 am	Mass
3:30 pm	Confession
7:00 pm	Spanish Mass
8:00 pm	Emmaus Meeting

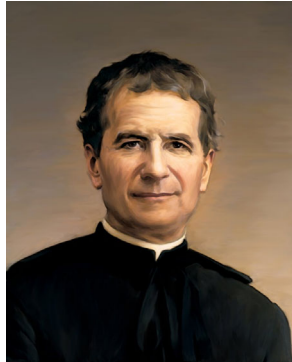
Attention Class of 2020!

The Associates of St. John Bosco invites rising college freshmen to attend a College Night at one of the following parishes:

St. Mary - Alexandria: July 22
St. Mary - Fredericksburg: July 29

College Nights are free to all students and provide resources and support for keeping your Catholic faith when entering college this fall. Catholic student representatives from George Mason, UVA, the University of Mary Washington, William & Mary, Virginia Tech, and other private and public schools will be on hand to share their experiences of being a Catholic college student. This is an excellent opportunity to network with other Catholic students and to receive resources for the transition to college only a few months away. The Nights begin at **7:00 PM**, and students are encouraged to wear their college t-shirt to the event! To register for one of the College Nights and for additional information, visit our website at www.asjb.org. Registration is limited to 50 students per night.

** Our College Nights will be held according to all Virginia Covid-19 Guidelines for social distancing and group size.



High School and Young Adult Virtual Summit

Sign up for the FREE Young Adult Virtual Summit, **God's Great Adventure Awaits**, July 31-August 2nd. It features 4 diocesan speakers: Stacey Sumereau (married lay evangelist), Liz Van de Voorde (consecrated daughter of Dcn. Van de Voorde), China Briceno (consecrated single parishioner at All Saints), and Dcn. Gerard Anthony (celibate permanent deacon for our diocese). The Summit addresses relevant topics for ages 14 (high school) through 40 such as discernment, blessings of celibacy, dating, finding your spouse, living out your marriage, and growing in holiness in our everyday life.

If you are a young adult in high school up to 40, this **FREE** Summit is for you!!! Register for the God's Great Adventure Awaits Summit: <https://www.staceysumereau.com/adventure>

There will be amazing speakers including Jason Evert, Fr. Thomas Gallagher, China Briceno, Beth Van de Voorde, and Sr. Bethany Madonna. When you sign up and they ask for a promo code, type in "**ANTHONY**" and it will get you special discounts on certain items in the online store and access to meet and greets with the conference presenters.

Please contact Deacon Gerard Anthony for more information: deaconanthony@sttimothyparish.org



Religious Education Registration Registration for the 2020-2021 Queen of Apostles Religious Education school is now open to students in kindergarten (age 5) through high school! Expect the RE school year to begin on Sunday, **Sept 13, 2020** with doors opening at **8:00 a.m.** and classes from **9:00-10:15 a.m.** New students are to provide birth and baptismal certificates. Class size limited. Parishioners and returning students have priority until Aug. 1. Visit our Parish website queenofapostles.org (Youth and Family > Religious Education) or go to <https://rb.gy/baixkk> to register.



CATECHIST WANTED!

Celebrating A Silver or Golden Wedding Anniversary This Year?

Were you married in 1970 or 1995?

Then join Bishop Michael F. Burbidge for the 2020 Mass for Jubilarians to

be celebrated on **Sunday, October 4th** at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington, VA. Contact the parish



office to register no later than **September 18th**. For more info, visit <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/family-life/2018-marriage-jubilee-mass/>

GOSPEL REFLECTION

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Justice and Grace

Fr. Joseph Rampino

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." This beatitude might well in some ways be considered the beatitude of our times. So often now, we hear calls for justice and right action. For so many, their Christian faith is precisely their principle of action, the motivating engine behind movements for reform in the Church and in the secular world. Yet Christ today in our Gospel tells His servants that they are not to rush out into the field of the world to pull up the weeds in one fell swoop. Why this seeming contradiction? We know that our God is a God of justice, so why does He seem to hold back those who hunger and thirst for righteousness?

The truth is that the Lord does, of course, desire perfect justice. He simply wants us to understand and accept that He will be the one to bring it about in the end. It is good for us to remember that while Christ calls us to reform our own lives and to work for the good of our neighbor, He does not ask us to create a paradise on Earth. He simply asks us to follow Him and treat our neighbor with His love.

So long as we imperfect creatures are the ones doing the work, we simply will not create perfect justice anywhere. We have to wait for heaven itself before we experience utopia. If we think that we must accomplish perfect justice on earth, our pursuit of it will become desperate and loveless, ideological and unstable. If we think that we can accomplish perfect justice on earth, our efforts will become distorted by pride, blind to our own sins and failing, and closed to God's grace.

Yet we do not have to worry about whether perfect justice will come about or not. At the end of the parable, Christ does separate the fully grown weeds and wheat, the bad souls and the good, in order to give to each what their lives have deserved. In heaven, He will heal all the wounds that time could not, and inaugurate the age of perfection. This hope in the inevitable victory of grace lets us do our good work here on earth with joy, with vigor, and with peace of heart. If we remain faithful to the task of daily righteousness, the Lord will bring about, through that simple fidelity, the greater things for which we hope.

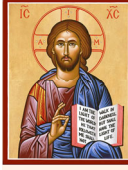
Have you ever considered putting Queen of Apostles in your will or estate? Please contact Flora Wack (f.wack@queenofapostles.org or 703-354-8711) at the Parish Office for more information.

Nourishing Our Souls With Holy Scripture

Readings for Next Week

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 KGS 3:5, 7-12 PS 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130
ROM 8:28-30 MT 13:44-52 OR 13:44-46



Vocations

"It is He whom we proclaim." Are you being called to proclaim Christ and the word of God? Call Father Michael Isenberg (703) 841-2514, or write: michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field...He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom." (Matthew 13:24, 37-38)

As children of God, we are all "good seeds." We are blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfill God's plan when we spend time in prayer every day, use our skills to help others, and share our financial gifts to help build God's kingdom on earth. Through our example of gratitude and generosity we sow "good seeds" on earth and ultimately help each other get to Heaven!

"There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us." ~ John Vianney

Wednesday Adoration Every Wednesday, from **8:30am-8pm**, we will have Eucharistic Adoration in the main sanctuary. Please make an effort to spend time with our Lord in prayer! Confessions are available immediately following Exposition.



Please pray for the members of our parish who are ill

Jin C. Navarro, Leo Monterroso, Etelvina León-Duarte, Ginny Cook, Olivia Castillo Asnis, Maria Reyes, Anna Anderson, Michelle Jacobeen, Jean McDermott, Anne Kemble, Tesfa Haile, 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, Kathleen Donohoe, 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, Dorothy Norpel, Kathy Ippolito, Richard Esterlund, Margaret Fiore, Michael Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Cervantes