

Whoever serves me must follow me,
says the Lord; and where I am,
there also will my servant be.



QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

CLERGY

Fr. Leopoldo M. Vives, DCJM, Pastor
Fr. Juan Espino, DCJM, Parochial Vicar
Fr. Javier O'Connor, DCJM, Parochial Vicar
Fr. Ignacio de Ribera, DCJM, In Residence
Deacon Richard C. Caporiccio

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Masses on Saturday: 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm (in Spanish)
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am,
12 Noon, 2:00 pm (Ghana Community)

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday: 6:30 am and 9:00 am
No 6:30 am Mass on Federal Holidays
Saturday: 8:00 am

HOLY HOUR SCHEDULE

Thursday: 7:30-8:30 pm

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday: 7:00-7:30 am
Wednesday: 6:30 pm until last penitent
Thursday: 7:30-8:30 pm during Holy Hour
Saturday: 4:00-5:00 pm and 6:00-7:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30-9:00 am and 10:00-10:30 am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 7 am through Saturday 7:45 am

QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

4409 Sano Street,
Alexandria, VA 22312
Mrs. Jodi Reagan, Principal
Mrs. Maria Fox, Secretary
(703) 354-0714
www.queenofapostlesschool.org



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. Registration will also be needed to receive a certificate of eligibility to be a Godparent for Baptism; to be a Sponsor for Confirmation; to enroll your child in Religious Education; to begin Baptismal preparation for your child (unless permission is received from your parish); and to prepare for Marriage. Parish registration forms are available in the Church vestibule and at the Parish Office, located at 4329 Sano St. (next door to the Church). Please notify the Parish Office of any family status changes or if you have moved outside of the parish by calling (703) 354-8711, or e-mail general@queenofapostles.org.

Mary, Queen of Apostles, pray for us.

Sacraments of Initiation - RCIA (adults) and Religious Education (students)

The Elect, formerly known as catechumens, and their godparents, are to participate in the Third Scrutiny and Presentation of the Our Father on **Mar. 17/18** during the 7 pm or 10:30 am Masses. Adult candidates and their sponsors are encouraged to attend.

The Elect who are preparing to receive the Three Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist) on Easter Vigil, and their godparents/sponsors, are to attend the mandatory rehearsal on Saturday, **Mar. 31** at 11 am in the church.

During Lent, the Church calls us to reflect on our own baptismal graces through prayer, penance, and almsgiving. We are also called to pray the 8 students and adults who are approaching the reception of the three Sacraments of Initiation on Easter Vigil.

Altar Servers The serving schedule for **March-May** was emailed to families. If you cannot serve, please find a substitute by sending a message to the altar server email group in advance. Servers are reminded to sign-in at least 15 minutes before Mass.

The schedules for Holy Week and Easter, and Masses for St. Joseph, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion are in process. Please check the altar server sign-in book to review assignments.

Nazareth Girls and boys in grades 5-8 are invited to join Nazareth. Generally, Nazareth is held on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month. Sign-in begins at 3:45 pm in Hannan Hall with activities beginning at 4 pm. Parent sign-out/pick-up is at 5:30 pm. Parents/adults are invited to help with Nazareth activities and to bring snacks.

Emmaus Emmaus, for high school and young college students, meets with Fr. Juan on Saturday evenings, 8:30-10 pm at Christendom College/Notre Dame Graduate School (4407 Sano Street) for fellowship, activities, faith discussion, and prayer.

Abstinence During Lent Everyone over 14 years of age is bound to observe abstinence (no meat). Abstinence is to be observed on all Fridays during Lent and Ash Wednesday.

Religious Education Classes will not meet on Palm Sunday, **Mar. 25** and Easter Sunday, **Apr. 1**. We wish our Religious Education families a prayerful Holy Week and a joyous Easter. Classes resume on **Apr. 8** with doors opening at 8:30 am.

On **Mar. 18** beginning at 9 am in the School, Fr. Juan will host a mandatory meeting with RE parents of First Holy Communion students who have fulfilled the requirements: meeting in English 9-9:30 am; meeting in Spanish 9:30-10 am. Parents are asked to bring their student to Confession several times before First Holy Communion on **May 12**.

Sacrament of Confirmation:

Students and sponsors are to attend the mandatory practice for Confirmation on Friday, **Apr. 13** at 6:30 pm in the church. Students and sponsors are to meet inside the church and sit in the back rows. During the practice, will review entering and exiting the church, seating, the role of sponsors, responses, singing, etc. If a sponsor is unable to attend the practice, a parent may attend.

Way of St. James, Pilgrimage to Spain Thank you for your spiritual and financial support of the Pilgrimage to Spain. In June, nine young men will travel with Fr. Juan to Madrid to visit the DCJM House of Formation. Then the pilgrims will walk/hike ~140 miles of the Camino de Santiago. As you pray for Andres, Billy, Christopher, Daniel, Deion, Erki, Matthew, Nicholas, and Vincent, during this journey of faith, they will be praying for you and your intentions. Prayer intentions may be placed in the green prayer intentions box in the church vestibule/at fundraisers.

You can help defray the costs of the pilgrimage by attending the Spanish-inspired dinner on **Mar. 24** in Hannan Hall. Also, you may purchase raffle tickets for themed gift baskets during the Friday dinners in Hannan Hall.

Donations by cash or check, payable to Queen of Apostles, are greatly appreciated. You may donate by credit card through Faith Direct and making a one-time donation: <https://membership.faithdirect.net/VA324>.

Thank You for your generous contribution to the Poor Box. This weekend's collection will go toward **Christ House**. Next weekend's collection will go toward the **Poor Sisters of St. Joseph**.

Pastor's Letter

March Madness

For football lovers, February is a magical month because of the Super Bowl. And this year one could certainly enjoy a great game, especially those from Philadelphia, like our Bishop.

For basketball lovers, March is the craziest month: "March Madness." A huge tournament in which if you win, you move to the next round. If you lose, you go home.

I like basketball. Indeed, I was part of my high school's Basketball team (if you are curious about my position, most of the time I was warming the bench).

Well, I can tell you that I feel some envy for March Madness. Two extremely intense weeks. Now you can see the 2018 bracket posted everywhere, and friends enjoy filling their own brackets. Then they gather to watch the games and have a lot of fun watching how their teams are moving forward.

Two intense weeks before the great game: Jesus against Satan. And I am envious because I would like to see Catholics all excited about this game. Living at the rhythm of the Liturgy, following breathless each round: Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and finally, Easter Sunday.

The Liturgy invites us to enter into the bracket of the generations until Jesus: the story of Salvation. And especially during Holy Week we will follow Jesus back and forth from Bethany to Jerusalem. The Sadducees and Pharisees are plotting against Him. Judas is brewing his betrayal. And while Jesus' passion is approaching, where are we? In Holy Week or in March Madness? In the Triduum or in the Final Four?

And this tournament between God and Satan is different than the National Championship: the one who is defeated is the one who has the victory: "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life" (Jn 12:24-25). And sure enough there is no single-elimination. After Baptism we always have Confession.

Enjoy St. Patrick's Day and March Madness, but don't let its excitement cause you to miss the most essential and greatest game: the Mystery of our Redemption, the Paschal Mystery of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who "Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him" (Hb 5:8-9).

Open Houses for Parishioners to Visit the Newly Purchased Home (New Rectory)

Wednesday, **Mar. 21**, 5 to 7 pm

Tuesday, **Mar. 27**, 5 to 7 pm

Please be mindful of our new neighbors and do not park on Applegarth Court.
Please park in the parish parking lot or on Sano Street and walk to the home.

Thank you for supporting the Bishop's Lenten Appeal Thanks to your generosity, our parish giving to the 2018 BLA has increased more than 30% from last year, but we have still not met our goal. It is not too late to give. Please help us meet our goal and support the needs of our Bishop and Diocese.

	After 4th Sunday of Lent		Goal
	2017	2018	2018
Pledges	\$138,074	\$173,942	\$180,000
Participation Rate	27%	31%	40%

This Week In Our Parish

Fifth Sunday of Lent - March 18:

School *Banica Mission CYO Sales*
School 9:00-10:15 am Religious Education
Notre Dame Graduate School 9:00-11:00 am
Hogares de Santa Maria
Hannan Hall 3:00-5:30 pm Ghana Group

Monday, March 19:

Staff Retreat — Parish Office Closed
Cupertino Room 7:00-9:00 pm Hispanic Legion of Mary
Notre Dame Graduate School 7:30-9:00 pm RCIA in English
Hannan Hall 8:00-9:00 pm Reception for the
Solemnity of St. Joseph

Tuesday, March 20:

Hannan Hall 10:00-11:30 am Bible Study
Hannan Hall 5:45-7:15 pm Bible Study
Hannan Hall 7:00-9:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 21:

Applegarth Property 5:00-7:00 pm Open House
Hannan Hall 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Prayer Group
Notre Dame Graduate School 7:30-9:00 pm RCIA in Spanish

Thursday, March 22:

Hannan Hall 6:00-9:00 pm Pro-Life Committee
Parish Office 6:30-8:00 pm Legion of Mary
Hannan Hall 6:30-9:00 pm Caminantes de Emaus
Church 7:30-8:30 pm Holy Hour
School 9:00-10:30 am St. Joseph Men's Group

Friday, March 23:

Adoration Chapel 11:00 am-12 noon Children's
Adoration Hour
Church 2:00-3:00 pm School Stations of the Cross
Adoration Chapel 3:00-4:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Hannan Hall 6:00-8:00 pm KofC Soup Supper
Church 7:00-8:00 pm Stations of the Cross
Hannan Hall 9:30 pm -12:00 am GCC Prayer Meeting

Saturday, March 24:

Family Day of Retreat
Hannan Hall 8:00 am-5:30 pm Caminantes de Emaus
Hannan Hall 10:00 am-1:00 pm GCC Council Mtg.
Church 1:00-2:00 pm GCC Lenten Retreat Mass
School 4:00-6:30 pm Spanish Prayer Group
Hannan Hall 5:30-9:00 pm Way of St. James Dinner
School 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Choir
Notre Dame Graduate School 8:30-10:00 pm Emmaus
Hannan Hall 8:30-10:30 pm Grupo de Betania

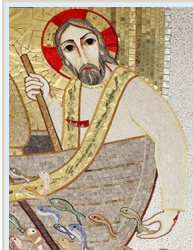
Early Bulletin Deadlines Please note the early bulletin deadlines for **March** and **April**:

The deadline for submitting announcements for the **Mar. 25** (Palm Sunday) bulletin was Monday, **Mar. 12** by 9 am.

The deadline for submitting announcements for the **Apr. 1** (Easter Sunday) bulletin is Monday, **Mar. 19** by 9 am.

The deadline for submitting announcements for the **Apr. 8** (Divine Mercy Sunday) bulletin is Monday, **Mar. 26** by 9 am.

Please email bulletin announcements to Mayra Saunders at m.saunders@queenofapostles.org.



Vocations

“He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him.”

The gift of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life is discerned through prayer and grace. Contact Fr. Juan at general@queenofapostles.org or Fr. J.D. Jaffe at j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-2514.

Fifth Sunday of Lent For all those being called to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life, that they may deepen their faith in Christ who calls them to glorify God in a profoundly personal way through their vocations, we pray to the Lord.

Sorrowful Heart of Mary, pray for us.



Adorers Needed Urgent need for permanent Adorer (on a weekly basis) on Thursday morning, 1 am- 2 am. If you are interested in supporting the Adoration Ministry during this hour, please contact Alexa Urban at (703) 241-1096 or moleski47@gmail.com.

Adorers are needed (on a weekly basis) on Monday 1 pm-2 pm, and Friday 3 pm-4 pm. If you are able to be a scheduled Adorer on a regular basis, please contact Rosalie Mainey at (703) 256-5765 or rosalieam@msn.com.

“St. Joseph was chosen among all men, to be the protector and guardian of the Virgin Mother of God; the defender and foster-father of the Infant-God, and the only co-operator upon earth, the one confidant of the secret of God in the work of the redemption of mankind.”
St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Lenten Soup Suppers All are invited to our delicious Lenten Soup Supper this Friday at 6 pm in Hannan Hall. RSVPs are encouraged but not required. Call the parish office at (703) 354-8711 to RSVP, or visit the parish website, www.queenofapostles.org for an online response form.

Stations of the Cross

Join us for Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 7:00 pm in the church.



Post-Abortion Healing Retreat for Women An Entering Canaan Day of Prayer and Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held next Saturday, **Mar. 24**. Come begin your healing journey and experience God's hope and mercy. You are not alone. There is hope. For more information and confidential registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry at 888-456-HOPE (4673) or info@helpafterabortion.org.



Queen of Apostles Catholic School

Please join us every Friday at 9 am for the School Mass.

